

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

DRAFT Annual Action Plan FFY 2023

for

Consolidated Plan Period
FFY 2020-2024 / CFY 2021-2025



Public Comment Period:
April 15, 2023 - May 15, 2023 at 12:00 pm

Virtual Public Hearing:
May 3, 2023 – 6 p.m.
www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/housing/grants

Send Comments to:

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Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

In accordance with federal requirements for jurisdictions receiving funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for housing and community development programs, Baltimore County prepared its Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-2024. The document is a five-year strategic plan that proposes how the County will use Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG), to create decent housing, expand economic opportunity, and ensure a suitable living environment for low- to moderate-income persons and communities during Fiscal Years 2020-2024. The Consolidated Plan identifies other local, state and federal resources the County will use to leverage its housing and community development strategy. It also incorporates the objectives, goals, and strategies of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement executed among Baltimore County, Maryland, HUD, and several complainants. As part of the Consolidated Plan process, the County is required to submit an Annual Action Plan for each of the five years included in the Consolidated Plan. This 2023 Annual Action Plan (County Fiscal Year 2024) supports the work identified in the original Consolidated Plan and addresses the changes in funding and in priorities as the County, its subgrantee partners, and citizens work to meet the many challenges of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The original Consolidated Plan was developed through a year-long process that included input from low- to moderate-income persons and communities, community and non-profit organizations, individuals, local governments and government agencies, and business owners and associations. The County analyzed data available through the CHAS, American Communities Survey, GIS, and other data sources to understand and forecast trends. Throughout the collaborative process, the County organized listening sessions and public hearings to seek input and guidance in order to assess and prioritize needs, identify goals and objectives, and determine desired outcomes. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the final public hearing was held virtually. Three years out from that initial Consolidated Plan, the County has become more adept at holding virtual public hearings and our citizens are also more comfortable making public comments through online forums. This Action Plan period held a virtual public hearing in December 2022 to garner feedback on the types of projects the County should include in this Action Plan and held a second Public Hearing virtually in May 2023 to receive comments on the propose plan. The County continues to support a balanced philosophy that recognizes the complexity of opportunities and challenges facing the County. The County continues to support the creation of new housing opportunities and the revitalization of existing communities while focusing on the sustainability of low- to moderate-income households and neighborhoods, as well as entities serving vulnerable populations.

Introduction - The Consolidated Plan (Continued) and the FFY 2023 Annual Action Plan

In keeping with the Consolidated Plan, Baltimore County prepares an annual plan to communicate its efforts in meeting the goals of the five-year consolidated plan during a particular plan year and to articulate priority funding areas and geographic priority funding needs. This “Action Plan” demonstrates the steps Baltimore County will undertake in Federal Fiscal Year 2023/County Fiscal Year 2024 to meet the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. This Action Plan builds on the strategic vision developed through a year-long process that included input from low- to moderate-income persons and communities, community and non-profit organizations, individuals, local governments and government agencies, and business owners and associations. Although coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, this Action Plan continued to be crafted with awareness of the COVID-19 pandemic recovery efforts. The County held virtual hearings and stakeholder meetings to properly assure social distancing. This Action Plan, along with the County’s COVID response, used data available through the CHAS, American Communities Survey, GIS, and other data sources to understand and forecast trends. The County included public hearings as well as discussions with various stakeholders to seek input and guidance in order to assess and prioritize needs, identify goals and objectives, and determine desired outcomes. Like the Consolidated Plan, this Action Plan incorporates the priorities of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement within its proposed activities for the coming year.

The Action Plan forms the basis of how the County will allocate funding during the plan period and serves as a benchmark and reference point for those entities that seek additional competitive funding from HUD through the HUD SuperNOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) and through other HUD-funded initiatives. Partnered with its annual action plans, the Consolidated Plan is most importantly a framework and management tool that will assess the County’s performance and track its progress on a year-to-year basis. This Action Plan will build on the achievements of the past, acknowledge current conditions and prepare a solid foundation for the future while using the Consolidated Plan framework as its roadmap.

As we begin to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, Baltimore County households continue to face high levels of unemployment, food insecurity, health care issues, and potential housing instability, including eviction. The unprecedented influx of federal assistance to the County to help prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus pandemic assisted a tremendous number of households and held many evictions at bay, but that funding is ending and the threat of eviction remains for many County households. The themes of this Action Plan marry the priority need areas below with County efforts to use federal COVID funding to meet the affordable housing needs of Baltimore County citizens.

The County's Action Plan is organized around the following priority need areas and accompanying goals for our community development and housing programs:

- Affordable Housing
- Housing for Homeless/Those At-Risk of Homelessness

- Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs Population
- Community Infrastructure Improvements
- Community Sustainability

Lastly, this Plan was created using an electronic template required by HUD. That template dictates the order and manner in which each subject matter is addressed and in cases limits the explanation to 4,000 characters. The numbers in the charts and tables are prepopulated for Baltimore County and where numbers differ from what we find trending locally, explanations for those differences are included in the narrative discussion for each section.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

Prior to the pandemic and over a series of months in the first year of its Consolidated Plan, the County performed data collection and analysis; distributed surveys; and held focus groups and public hearings to perform its Needs Assessment. Identified needs were:

- **Affordable rental housing for low-income households, veterans and persons experiencing homelessness**
- **Affordable housing that is located in areas not experiencing racial and ethnic concentrations or areas of high poverty**
- **Affordable housing for homeowners and assistance with needed home repairs for low to moderate-income citizens**
- **Programs providing supportive services and rapid rehousing for those experiencing homelessness and eviction prevention for those at-risk of homelessness**
- **Community infrastructure improvements and assistance sustaining viable neighborhoods and communities**
- **Programs dealing with day care, parenting, domestic violence, sexual abuse, life skills, job readiness and a myriad of other CDBG-eligible activities**

Pre-pandemic analysis of the CHAS data from the 2007-11 American Communities Survey indicated that households at 50% and below of the Area Household Median Income experience housing cost burdens, with more households whose incomes are 30% or less experiencing housing cost burden or other housing problems. While both low-income owners and renters experience housing problems, low-income renter households are more likely to experience one or more housing problems than owner households. The data also indicated that African American households are more likely to experience housing problems, including housing cost burdens, than white households. The CHAS data indicates a need for more affordable housing for households earning less than 50% of the AMI and more particularly households earning 30% or less of the AMI. This data is consistent with the affordable housing production goals of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement.

For many, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these housing needs, particularly among renter households. In April 2021, Baltimore County District Courts were experiencing a backlog of over 54,000 Failure to Pay Rent (FTPR) filings on Baltimore County households. As federal and state moratoria were allowed to lapse, these households remain at-risk of future homelessness. The majority of the County's CDBG and ESG Coronavirus funding has been directed to maintaining housing or rapidly rehousing individuals once housing is lost. The Coronavirus Pandemic and its recovery efforts have reinforced the vulnerability of these households. Evidence shows District Court FTPR filings are beginning to return to pre-pandemic levels, and actual evictions are at 70% of their pre-pandemic levels as of September 2022 (last available data).

Section AP-20 outlines the specific Annual Action Plan goals for the County's entitlement funding and other funds supplementing the County's efforts to meet the goals identified below. Within each priority area, the chart offers a description of the goal, funding and outcome indicators, and identifies geographic priority areas to be targeted during the action and consolidated planning periods. The goals and accompanying outcome measures involve both activities agreed upon in the Voluntary Compliance Agreement as well as additional measures to assist Baltimore County's low to moderate-income citizens. Readers are advised that in some cases, activities associated with the identified goals can fall into more than one goal area. This is true even for some of the goals identified as part of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement. As such, please note that some crossover in the measured outcomes is to be expected.

3. Evaluation of Past Performance

During the prior Consolidated Plan period (Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2019/County Fiscal Years 2017-2020), the County made progress towards a number of its affordable housing goals. Recognizing the need to increase family rental housing, the County assisted 586 family rental housing units since the submission of the County's Consolidated Plan. These units are located in various communities including identified Opportunity Areas in the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement. All rental housing projects assisted served households with incomes of 60% or below of established Area Median income (AMI).

During the plan period, the County expanded its funding for homeless programs with an expanding shelter operation coupled with a shelter diversion program. The shelter diversion program helps people at risk of being homeless access resources to help them maintain or access housing. The effort is being funded with County funds. Other accomplishments include the provision of increased funding for shelter operators which enable the shelters to expand their staffing to provide additional services. The additional funding allowed the agencies that operate the homeless shelters, eviction prevention, rapid rehousing, diversion, permanent supportive housing, etc to serve 6126 individuals (4,117 adults and 2,006 children). This represents 3,952 households in total, across all programs, between July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020. Of those served, 3,482 (56%) came from a place not meant for human

habitation. Of those served across all programs, 4,357 individuals moved into permanent housing. Of those, 285 moved from shelter into permanent housing between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

To add to the County's commitment to making homelessness rare and brief, the County recognized the need for improved shelter facilities. During the prior Consolidated Plan period, the County operated a shelter for men on the grounds of Spring Grove Hospital in Catonsville as well as constructed a new Eastern Family Resource Center, which includes a family shelter, a men's shelter, and a prior transitional housing section that was reclaimed during COVID as isolation space. This facility includes clinic space for Healthcare for the Homeless. Additionally, a shelter nurse program operates on-site to assist those most vulnerable, exiting emergency room and hospital stays, to return to shelter with some supportive services.

The County continued its commitment to increasing affordable homeownership and assisted 3000 households with the purchase of a home through the Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP). The program assisted 200 households with closing cost and down payment loans/grants. The program's investment has leveraged over \$302,360,632 in first mortgages throughout established communities in Baltimore County. The County also continued to provide pre and post purchase counseling to first time homebuyers as well as providing foreclosure prevention and default/delinquency as well.

During the plan period 375 low to moderate income homeowners were assisted with federal and state funds to make repairs and improvements to their homes. The County used its Level II Authority under the State of Maryland's Special Loans Programs to leverage its entitlement funds efficiently to assist more eligible households. Additionally, due to a recent outreach effort, the County has seen an increase in the number of requests for accessibility modifications for homeowners and rental properties.

Over the last two fiscal years, the County was deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the County's nonprofit partners had to shut down programs temporarily, homeless shelters were closed to new intakes and socially distanced, and housing rehabilitation programs were temporarily stalled. During FFY21/CFY 2022, programs reopened and revised their service plans in accordance with new COVID realities. One activity that saw a boon in activity is the Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program. Demand has been high for housing rehab services.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and Consultation Process

Baltimore County held two public hearings (December 15, 2022 and May 3, 2023) on the use of its federal entitlement funding. On December 15, 2022, Baltimore County held a virtual public hearing to gather citizen comments on its draft plans for use of its HUD entitlement programs and the overall needs of County residents. The citizen comments spoke to both the need as it related to pandemic recovery and the needs of Baltimore County citizens of low and moderate-income. The County took public comments during its virtual public hearing and offered the option of written submission of comments, though no written comments were submitted. In keeping with its Citizen Participation Plan,

the County provided 15 days' notice of both its December and May public hearings. Additionally County stakeholders were given 30 days to comment on the Action Plan.

5. Summary of Public Comments

Among the public comments made during the December 15, 2022 public hearing, the following is a sampling of organization's comments:

Eviction prevention and increased housing stability efforts was a theme mentioned by multiple speakers. Episcopal Housing Corporation/St Francis Community Center thanked the County for its work and partnership in housing stability efforts and encouraged the County to support financial literacy work and case management/financial social work to assist households maintain and sustain housing long-term, including the construction of more affordable housing. Baltimore County Department of Social Services reiterated the need for rapid rehousing and eviction prevention efforts as well as the County's growing Coordinated Entry efforts. MedStar Franklin Square mentioned the trend of affordable housing units being renovated and rents raised to a level that excludes current occupants. Additionally, the community programs in those neighborhoods that were essential to successful housing are not there as support.

Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County reminded the County that conflict resolution is an important part of reducing stress for residents seeking housing services and facing eviction. A policy issue was also highlighted regarding the ease in filing Failure to Pay Rent in Baltimore County with the suggestion that the law be adjusted and supportive services offered through nonprofits to assist those attempting to maintain their housing and avoid homelessness. The Eastside Community Development Corporation added the importance of nonprofit housing counseling for homebuyers of affordable housing and the need for continued counseling to prevent evictions due to affordable housing foreclosures.

Pro-Bono Counseling sees a need for mental health therapy in languages other than English as well as a need for increased grant funds to support more mental health services to increase overall counseling capacity. Liberty's Promise spoke on behalf of the needs of immigrant youth, explaining the importance of having liaisons to help families find resources and integrate into community.

The MD Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, An Intention Purpose, and the ARC all mentioned the need for increased food stability among households in Baltimore County. The Food Bank as well as Meals on Wheels saw an historic rise in food need. For the elderly population, this is related to closures of many senior centers post-pandemic. Working with Baltimore County, the Food Bank was focused on Hunger Hot Spots and looking to improve food distribution in specific areas of the County in greatest need.

Senior services to assist with social isolation among the elderly, wellness checks, computer access, home repair and upkeep were mentioned by Meals on Wheels, the Stony Brook Community Association, and Black Women for Positive Change. A representative of the Northwest Baltimore County Gateway

Committee reiterated the needs of seniors and suggested some income limits needed to be adjusted to insure affordable resources/services for senior-owned housing.

The needs of the homeless were of concern for multiple speakers advocating for expanded services to get people into housing and maintain their housing. Prologue, Streets of Hope, and Community Assistance Network (CAN) each discussed trends in homelessness – detailing the need for security deposit assistance, affordable and subsidized housing as well as rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing. Case management was mentioned as critical to success along with outreach to communities for connections to important community resources and supports.

Women of Valor encouraged the County to serve women in the community through developing sustainable solutions like housing rehab centers and housing linked to workforce development and wrap around services so that women do not have to enter shelter.

At-risk youth were the focus of several comments. Heroes Helping Heroes urged the County to invest resources into developing the County's youth, including tools for their personal development, self-regulation, self-management, improved education and relationships with families and youth. Work-based experiences for older youth in careers with mentors were also encouraged. CAN echoed a need for additional afterschool programming and summer programs for youth. CASA of Baltimore County urged the County to focus on the needs of children and youth in foster care, providing an intersection of resources including therapy, housing, education as well as the needs of youth transitioning to adulthood.

The ARC highlighted the needs of persons living with disabilities and the need for increased food resources, supportive services, and youth advocacy to remove barriers to services. Easter Seals, supported the need for adult day services to assist the elderly and said staff costs are creating hiring challenges and the need to move toward technology to assist with some staffing issues. Richcroft cited the need for available day services that were decreased during the pandemic and the need for increased safe, affordable housing for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Family Crisis Center and Turnaround both discussed the need for more services to address the population of Baltimore County residents experiencing domestic violence, sexual violence and human trafficking. The Coordinated Entry hotline for this population needs more resources to assist callers. Types of service needs mentioned were: rape crisis centers, shelter diversion, transitional housing, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing.

Several nonprofits mentioned things the County could improve upon in the future. The NAACP encouraged the County to look for creative ways to bring more voices to the table to ensure additional community members and stakeholders are in attendance. Prologue, Family Crisis Center and Turnaround mentioned the hardship of late grant agreements and payments impacting their work and were concerned with the potential for service disruptions and negative impacts on their lines of credit. The delay in federal and state government award announcements by about four months pushed the

County's FFY22/CFY23 grant award cycle back as many months and then the County's transition into a new financial system further extended the grant execution period. In the future, several organizations requested the County streamline their grant processing to pay nonprofits sooner and avoid similar challenges moving forward.

Summary of Public Comments (May 3, 2023 Hearing)

For the May 3, 2023 public hearing, the County held a virtual hearing. County staff were in attendance. (TBD) citizens joined the public hearing. (TBD) citizen comments were submitted in writing either during the public comment period or as part of the public hearing.

6. Summary Of Comments or Views Not Accepted and the Reasons For Not Accepting Them

Baltimore County accepts all comments and views submitted in response to the Annual Action Plan and incorporates all comments into the Plan. The official public comment on the draft Annual Action Plan ran from April 15 - May 15, 2023 in keeping with the required 30-day public comment period. A virtual Public Hearing was held on May 3, 2023 via WebEx. The public comment period on the draft Annual Action Plan was not shortened due to the Coronavirus pandemic and no comments were submitted on the Annual Action Plan.

7. Summary

The goal of this FFY 2023 Annual Action Plan is to provide County citizens with information on how the County plans to use its HUD Entitlement Grant funds and Coronavirus funding in order to improve the lives of Baltimore County's citizens with decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities for those who call Baltimore County home. The goals and strategies identified in this Plan support that effort.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator		BALTIMORE COUNTY	Balt. Co Dept of Housing and Community Development
HOME Administrator		BALTIMORE COUNTY	Balt. Co Dept of Housing and Community Development
ESG Administrator		BALTIMORE COUNTY	Balt. Co Dept of Housing and Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) serves as the lead agency for housing and community development programs in Baltimore County. DHCD plans, administers, and implements the federally-funded CDBG, HOME, ESG, and Continuum of Care Programs as well as State and County funded homeless, housing and community development activities. Many of the County's activities are carried out by subrecipient partners both inside and outside of government. These nonprofit agencies provide needed services and/or housing development to the citizens of Baltimore County.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

Citizen and stakeholder participation is a critical component of Baltimore County's Consolidated Plan development and each of the County's Annual Action Plans included in the strategic plan period. This Action Plan covers the third year of the Consolidated Planning period and builds on the strong foundation of prior efforts. Due to social distancing protocols, in-person events were still reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To this end, Baltimore County held virtual activities. The County held two public hearings to garner public comment and reached out to other jurisdictions for ideas and comments.

As in developing the Consolidated Plan, the County continues to work with other departments and nonprofit organizations in developing recommended activities for the Annual Action Plan. The Department of Housing and Community Development, along with the Departments of Permits, Approvals, and Inspections (PAI); Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS); Health and Human Services; Aging; and Emergency Management coordinate efforts on a variety of issues including housing, health care, and access to social services, mainstream resources, and resiliency/disaster response as needed. The County's Office of Sustainability and the County's emergency response/management staff were also provided the opportunity to comment on this Plan. The COVID-19 pandemic and recovery have altered how the County addresses many issues and provides an opportunity for departments to work collaboratively on issues. To this end, emergency management staff from a variety of agencies have been part of various task forces identifying needs around food distribution, potential swells in homelessness and housing instability, job/workforce training needs, and healthcare response/vaccine distribution in lower income communities in need. Weather related incidents - extreme heat, flooding, snow, etc. - are included in those types of discussions as well.

An area of particular concentration during the pandemic, increasing broadband access to underserved households, became even more critical as a communication, learning, and job necessity. Working with Comcast, 11,000 low-income households enrolled in Comcast Internet Essentials, providing low-cost internet access to income eligible families. Those on public assistance programs like the National School Lunch Program, Housing Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP and others can qualify. The County is also working to expand internet to areas where physical access is more difficult, like the more rural areas of the County, expanding public wi-fi to 50 locations across the County. The County received a grant for \$2.25 million from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to expand rural broadband to 900 households.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

The Baltimore County Departments of Housing and Community Development and Health and Human Services work together to engage in a number of partnerships with housing and service agencies. The County's Office of Housing falls within the Department of Housing and Community Development. The County's agencies jointly develop priorities and align efforts to increase affordable housing opportunities in areas of opportunity as defined in the Voluntary Compliance Agreement and in accordance with federal regulations guiding HUD's entitlement programs. The County has been an active member of the Opportunity Collaborative, which is a regional organization that brings together local governments, public housing authorities, foundations, institutions, State government agencies, and nonprofit organizations within the region. The Opportunity Collaborative has developed the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and it includes a Regional Housing Plan. The Department of Planning has also been active with the State Neighborhood Stabilization Task Force to address neighborhood revitalization and stabilization strategies throughout the State. The County continues its collaboration with a group of six local governments, five public housing authorities (PHAs), and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) to support BMC's Housing Policy Coordinator position, a Regional Analysis of Impediments Stakeholder Work Group, and its own 2020 Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice. The County continues to look for new ways to support the work of these groups. The County departments also participate in the County's Local Management Board to address the needs of children and families.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development serves as the lead agency for the Continuum of Care lead (MD-505) in Baltimore County. As such, County staff are responsible for coordinating regular CoC meetings, drafting minutes, establishing workgroups on policies, procedures, program guidelines, as well as administering the bulk of the County's CoC grants. Throughout 2022, DHCD received HUD Technical Assistance (TA) to create the CoC Governance Document, update the ESG guidelines for grantees and between 7/1/23 and 6/30/24 will finalize the CoC Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) guide. This will ensure all grantees are following federal, state and county regulations for all grant types. Additionally, the CoC will be expanding Coordinated Entry to include assessment, prioritization and referral for permanent housing to include rapid re-housing referrals and Permanent Supportive housing referrals. The chronically homeless, unaccompanied homeless youth and those with the longest length of time homeless will be prioritized for permanent housing solutions. Furthermore, DHCD will continue to hold bi-weekly case conferences focused on the veteran by name list. These meetings include VA partners, homeless outreach and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) providers. The collaboration has allowed our CoC to reduce the names of homeless veterans on the by name list and successfully house them through VASH vouchers or other VA rapid rehousing services.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The Baltimore County Continuum of Care (CoC) is a public private stakeholder group. County staff are responsible for the staffing of the Roundtable and administration of both the Consolidated Plan and the CoC for Baltimore County. Staff working on homeless issues plan and support the work of the CoC as well as the homeless programs that are funded with additional federal, state and county funds. The CoC follows funding, policy priorities and best practices outlined by HUD to make funding decisions to address homelessness. Baltimore County allocates the ESG funds to three providers, one that provides Rapid Rehousing, one that provides street outreach, and a third that provides cold weather shelter for up to 7 months of the year. Performance standards are based off of HUD System Performance Measures (SPM) and the outcomes of the CoC Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA). This past year, the CoC worked with HUD TA to create a quarterly SPM Score Card to show quarterly progress made by project type, towards each SPM goal. During the Action Plan period, the County will build off of this tool to create one that shows provider-level progress made towards each measure. The HMIS team has identified a HMIS “lead user” at each provider and will hold monthly meetings to include those data leads. Performance will be reviewed and members will be taught to pull their Annual Performance Reports (APRs) from HMIS, regularly and identify areas where they are not meeting SPMs. HUD ESG guidelines are reviewed and implemented into the County's HMIS Policies and Procedures. HUD ESG guidelines are reviewed and implemented into the County's HMIS Policies and Procedures. If a program is not performing up to standard, funding can be withheld until the problem area is resolved. These report cards, along with other statistical data, are located on the HMIS website for public review.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction’s consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

4	Agency/Group/Organization	BALTIMORE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	CASA of Baltimore County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.

8	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Assistance Network
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Churches for the Streets of Hope, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.

12	Agency/Group/Organization	Dundalk Renaissance Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Employment Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	EASTER SEALS, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Adult Medical Day Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Episcopal Housing Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Education

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	H.H.H.: Heroes Helping Heroes, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	The House of Ruth Maryland, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	PENN-MAR ORGANIZATION, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Penn-Mar serves individuals living with disabilities. Penn -Mar supports multiple alternative living units, a supportive day program, and advocates for the needs of persons living with disabilities.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	St Vincent De Paul
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	St Vincent de Paul is a private, nonprofit providing services largely to the County's persons experiencing homelessness. SVDP operates the Hannah More Homeless Shelter, a Rapid Rehousing program in the County, a food distribution service, and several other programs targeting the most at-risk County citizens.

23	Agency/Group/Organization	Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	MARYLAND FOOD BANK
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Hunger Relief
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Medstar Franklin Square Medical Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Pro Bono Counseling Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Mental Health Care
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	Prologue, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
33	Agency/Group/Organization	THE ARC OF BALTIMORE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
34	Agency/Group/Organization	Richcroft
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.

35	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - County Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Staffed by the Baltimore County Department of Planning, the monthly Roundtable meetings bring together private and public providers to plan for better services to those experiencing homelessness and those at-risk of homelessness. Entities involved in the Roundtable include housing services, health services, social and fair housing services, Continuum of Care providers, public and private agencies that support the needs of low-income individuals and families, representatives of mental health facilities, government agencies such as education, social services (foster care/youth facilities), corrections, police as well as interested business and civic leaders. This organization has an ongoing planning/coordination function to identify and address priority areas; has practitioners with on the ground experience to improve coordination of services to the homeless; and guides the County to improved outcomes in serving the homeless and preventing homelessness among vulnerable populations. The Roundtable has several subcommittees that recommend policies and procedures to be implemented by the County when using federal, state and County funds to address homelessness and its prevention.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Baltimore County sought to include a wide range of stakeholders in its consultations for the Consolidated Plan. No groups were intentionally left out of our consultation process.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Baltimore County Department of Housing & Community Development	Provide supportive services including housing counseling to move people from homelessness to housing.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	Baltimore County Department of Housing & Community Development	Foster integrated communities by creating affordable rental housing opportunities in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated.
Regional Plan for Sustainable Development	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Increase affordable rental housing for families in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated. Provide opportunities to increase employability.
The Baltimore Regional Housing Plan	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Foster integrated communities by creating housing opportunities in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated.
Fair Housing Equity Assessment	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Increasing the availability of affordable housing for families and persons with disabilities.
PHA Administrative Plan	Baltimore County Office of Housing, Department of Housing & Community Development	Provide opportunities for mobility counseling to help families access housing in areas of opportunity.
10 Year Plan to End Homelessness	Baltimore County Department of Housing & Community Development	Creating permanent supportive housing
Sustainable Communities	MD Department of Housing and Community Development- Neighborhood Revitalization	Encourage investment in established areas to promote revitalization and stabilization of residential and business communities.
Workforce Development Plan	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Remove barriers that keep low-skilled or low-income adults from progressing into family supporting careers through strategies that address skills gaps, housing and transportation barriers, and social barriers.
Baltimore County Workforce Investment Act Plan	Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development	Remove barriers that keep low-skilled or low-income adults from progressing into family supporting careers through strategies that address skills gaps, housing and transportation barriers, and social barriers.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Master Plans	Baltimore County Department of Planning	Encourage investment in established areas to promote revitalization and stabilization of residential and business communities.
Baltimore County Enterprise Strategic Plan 2019-22	Baltimore County Executive	Ensure all residents have access to high-quality and affordable housing, cultural and recreational opportunities in safe communities.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Baltimore County, the State of Maryland, Baltimore City, and Anne Arundel, Howard and Harford Counties leverage important resources and the intellectual capital needed to develop and implement a strategic plan reflecting the goals of the County and the region. Since 1994, the County has worked with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) to affirmatively further fair housing. The County works with the BMC's Opportunity Collaborative on the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development which includes the Opportunity Maps; a regional housing plan, a workforce development plan and the Fair Housing Equity Assessment. The County partners with the BMC/regional governments on the Assessment of Fair Housing, incorporating the requirements of HUD's 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Final Rule.

The County works with Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Development Administration & Division of Neighborhood Revitalization to address housing and community development needs. The lead agency is a Level II Authority under DHCD's Special Programs and packages and recommends a variety of loans under the program, including the Maryland Housing Rehabilitation and the Lead Hazard Rehabilitation Programs. Sustainable Communities designation in several key County communities affords eligibility for State resources to promote and assist with revitalization efforts in: Catonsville/ Patapsco; Greater Dundalk/ Sparrows Point, Hillendale, Parkville/ Overlea; Northwest Gateways; Pulaski Highway Redevelopment Area; Reisterstown; & Towson.

Through DHCD, the County obtained financial assistance for one important rental housing project in the historic African-American communities of Turner Station. DHCD awarded Tax Credits and Rental Housing Partnership funds to Lyon Homes to fund the continuation of remaining substandard units. The County also worked with the Community Development Administration regarding the condition of Lyon Homes in Turner Station. The property, constructed in 1942, originally consisted of 408 units. Baltimore County HOME funds will assist the project while the

County works with the development team to address development concerns, permitting, temporary relocation of tenants during renovations, and other matters.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation

Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

On December 15, 2022, Baltimore County held a virtual public hearing to elicit comments from County citizens and stakeholders on the needs to be funded as part of this Action Plan. All verbal comments were included in the summary and no written comments were submitted. As the County moves into a recovery phase, the impact of COVID on housing and mental health needs remains an issue for many citizens. A full summary of comments can be found in the section entitled *Summary of Comments*. Baltimore County's Homeless Roundtable (the Continuum of Care lead entity) influenced priorities with their ongoing efforts to rate and CoC projects. RFP Review Committees included multiple citizen participants to review and recommend which projects should be funded under Public Services, Homeless Services and Capital projects. A second public hearing was held on May 3, 2023 to gather comments on the proposed Action Plan. No written comments were received during the hearing or submitted during the remainder of the public comment period. The hearing was held virtually. County staff were in attendance, but no stakeholder participants joined May's virtual hearing.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community All subgrantee organizations (federal, state, and county-funded) were asked to share notice	TBD County staff attended	May 3, 2023 Virtual Public Hearing. County staff attended. #TBD stakeholder participants joined the virtual hearing.	TBD comments were offered	Not applicable
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community All subgrantee organizations (federal, state, and county-funded) were asked to share notice	88 attended, 26 provided comments	December 15, 2022 Public Hearing and RFP Meeting. See Summary of Comments in Executive Summary Section and Attachments Section	All comments were accepted	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Public Meeting	Continuum of Care (Homeless) Stakeholders	Approximately 30-40 attendants at each meeting	Throughout the year, the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable holds meetings where they set ongoing policies and priorities for the Continuum of Care. These priorities help guide the ESG funded projects as well as impact all homeless services provided by the County whether funded through federal, state, or county dollars. As such, the Roundtable is an important venue for citizen involvement in the Action Plan.	All comments accepted.	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Grant Review Committees	Non-targeted/broad community	Citizen members participate in the County's RFP review committee structure to make recommendations on projects to be funded with federal, state, and county funds. Citizen members have the same level of review and discussion opportunity as governmental staff.	All comments within the review committee are confidential. Citizen reviewer comments are received on par with staff reviewer comments.	All comments were accepted.	Not applicable
5	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Newspaper ad advising citizens of December public hearing to identify needs in Baltimore County and to promote the applications/RFP for Public Service, Homeless Service and Capital projects.	See public hearing outreach activity	Not applicable	not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Newspaper ad advised citizens of where to find Action Plan for review during public comment period and upcoming Public Hearing.	See public hearing outreach activity.	Not applicable	not applicable

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

During the Consolidated Plan period of FFY 2020-2024, Baltimore County expects its federal funding to remain relatively level. The County's Consolidated Plan period began on July 1, 2020 and end on June 30, 2024. In its third year of the five-year plan period, CDBG funding for FFY 2023 will be \$4,385,348 with HOME funding at \$2,363,039. The County's ESG funding in FFY 2023 will be \$370,255. The County received a slight increase to all three HUD entitlement programs during this Action Plan period. The County is also projecting a growth in Program Income for both CDBG and HOME over prior years. This growth is based on projections from trends seen in FFY 2022. Due to the availability of continued HUD funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, additional COVID related funding may be used in a program year, but the actual programming of the funding can be found in the 2019 action plan. The resources anticipated below reflect the County's entitlement grants, anticipated program income, required local match dollars, Continuum of Care funds, Housing Choice Voucher Funds, and funds the County has agreed to dedicate to affordable housing through the Voluntary Compliance Agreement. COVID-19 stimulus funds were included in an amendment to the County's FFY2016-2019 Plan period because the funds were awarded during the term covered by that Plan. HUD announced HOME-COVID funds in the amount of \$7,471,986 for Baltimore County. The County submitted its HOME-ARP plan as a Substantial Amendment

on March 31, 2023.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	4,385,348	700,000	2,835,849	7,921,197	4,731,805	Baltimore County is an Urban Entitlement jurisdiction and therefore receives annual funding through the Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG), a flexible grant program that principally provides funding for housing and community development needs of Baltimore County's low- to moderate-income citizens. Prior year CDBG resources are available due to larger than expected program income receipted in a given year and/or projects that did not fully use the originally-programmed CDBG funds.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	2,363,039	650,000	1,348,478	4,361,517	2,300,464	As part of its Urban Entitlement status, Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds are available to assist in building, purchasing, and/or rehabbing affordable rental housing as well as homeownership. Funds may also be used for rental assistance to low-income citizens. Prior year HOME resources are available due to two large HOME Acquisition/Rehab projects from 2018 and 2019 did not move forward and use their HOME funds.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	370,255	0	44,122	414,377	370,255	Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds are provided as part of the Urban Entitlement and can be used to address the needs of homeless individuals including sheltering, rapid rehousing, and eviction. Prior year ESG resources are available because the Rapid Rehousing projects did not fully utilize their initial funding, and we wish to use the funds before their 24-month expenditure deadline. The County plans to reallocate those funds for use in the coming year.
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Other	2,957,037	0	0	2,957,037	2,957,037	Federal Continuum of Care funding to the Baltimore County Continuum of Care for assisting individuals experiencing homelessness transition to permanent housing.
Section 8	public - federal	Housing	91,550,000	0	0	91,550,000	91,550,000	HUD Housing Vouchers

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
Other	public - federal	Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental rehab	1,100,000	0	0	1,100,000	0	In the last Action Plan period, Baltimore County received \$2 million in funds to test 150 homes for lead, remediate 110 homes of lead, and provide educational training for up to 25 individuals. The County has up to three years to spend the award and the grant is offered to Baltimore County rental owners or homeowners who meet the income requirements of the program.
Other	public - federal	Housing TBRA	1,371,064	0	0	1,371,064	1,371,064	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
Other	public - state	Other	57,246	0	0	57,246	57,246	State funds specifically used for eviction assistance
Other	public - state	Overnight shelter Transitional housing Other	765,000	0	0	765,000	765,000	State funds to support services to individuals experiencing homelessness

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
Other	public - local	Other	3,300,000	0	0	3,300,000	3,300,000	Housing Accessibility Modification Program for Housing Choice Voucher holders to make needed modifications to their rental units.
Other	public - local	Overnight shelter Public Services	6,620,383	0	0	6,620,383	6,620,383	County General Funds supporting homeless services, public services, homeless shelters, homeless daycare, fair housing and community action agency operations.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

During the Consolidated Plan period, CDBG, HOME and ESG federal entitlement funds are expected to leverage an additional \$40.4 million in federal, state and county funds. State funds through the Homeless Solutions Program and the Emergency Assistance Program will provide \$4,054,000. Federal Continuum of Care funds are expected to be \$11,415,892 and Lead funding of \$2,000,000 complete the expected federal assistance. County General Funds for Homeless Services and Public Services are expected to be almost \$26.5 million in funding and include supportive service needs to low- and moderated-income citizens, fair housing, homeownership counseling, community action agency services as well as operations of the County's homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, shelter diversion, homeless daycare, and homeless shelters. The County's ESG match requirement is more than satisfied based on the County's \$4 million annual general fund support of its three largest homeless shelters. The County's HOME match requirement was waived due to COVID-19 for Federal Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021 (County Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022). Baltimore County will begin reporting HOME program match in Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (County Fiscal Year 2023), using funds banked from disbursed VCA projects. As of FFY 2021, the County currently has \$15,350,755.27 available for reporting excess match in the

next period.

During the Consolidated Plan period, the County received direct federal COVID-response funding for Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) totaling nearly \$50 million, State ERA funding of over \$37 million and HUD COVID funding of nearly \$5 million in ESG-CV and nearly \$6 million in CDBG-CV. Rounding out this COVID response funding will be the nearly \$7.5 million in HOME-CV funding for which the County is currently holding listening sessions. The County expended over \$45 million in directly-awarded ERA funding in FFY 21-22, along with the full amount of State ERA funding in the same FFY21-22 timeframe. During the Action Plan period, the County will leverage ERA Housing Stability funding of approximately \$1.75M while it winds down its use of ESG-CV and CDBG-CV for County households. During this Action Plan period, the County will begin its HOME-ARP plan implementation.

In addition, as part of the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County has pledged to reserve \$300,000 each year to make housing accessibility modifications to Housing Choice Vouchers units as well as \$3,000,000 per year to assist affordable housing developers create affordable rental housing in Opportunity Areas throughout the County. Over the Consolidated Plan period, these additional resources would constitute an additional \$13,200,000 available for low-income renters.

The Ryan White HIV Case Management Program's primary goal is to link clients to medical and/or social services that stabilize their health and allow them to function independently. BCDH receives multiple funding streams (i.e., Ryan White Part A, Ryan White B Flex-Health Support Services, AIDS Case Management) to help clients with their unmet medical and psychosocial needs. A key factor to ensuring a client's health is access to permanent safe and affordable housing. The Ryan White HIV Case Management Program employs a 0.97 full-time equivalent (FTE) Housing Specialist that works closely with clients who are receiving rental assistance to ensure that their re-certifications are completed annually to maintain supportive housing assistance.

If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

Four of the County's homeless shelters are housed in County-owned buildings. These shelters are operated by third-parties, but the buildings and all utilities and maintenance associated with the buildings are provided by Baltimore County. In combination, these shelters have been designed to offer emergency shelter for men, women and families. Nearly 600 shelter beds offer year-round shelter across the four shelters: the Westside Men's Shelter; Eastern Family Resource Center (primarily offers family congregate living areas as well as a men's only dorm); Hannah More Family Shelter that offers individual shared rooms for up to two families to share; and a domestic violence family shelter.

Discussion

The federal funds listed above will be used in conjunction with state and county funds to meet the needs of Baltimore County's low- to moderate-income citizens by concentrating on identified priorities. In addition, the nonprofit grantees receiving funds through the County's CDBG, CoC and/or State homeless programs use a variety of other fund sources (private donations, foundations, fundraisers, and other government grants) to assist in the full funding of their programs. Together these funds assist in meeting Baltimore County's priorities of:

- Affordable Housing
- Housing for Homeless/Those At-Risk of Homelessness
- Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs Population
- Community Infrastructure Improvements
- Community Sustainability

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability	2017	2021	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$190,000 HOME: \$464,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 30 Households Assisted
2	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners	2017	2021	Affordable Housing	Opportunity Areas	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$802,947 HOME: \$1,651,522	Rental units constructed: 40 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 150 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 66 Household Housing Unit
3	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing	2017	2021	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$50,000 HOME: \$100,000	Other: 4 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness	2017	2021	Homeless	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness	CDBG: \$100,693	Homelessness Prevention: 391 Persons Assisted
5	Support a range of homeless housing options	2017	2021	Homeless	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness	CDBG: \$115,608 ESG: \$203,580	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 76 Households Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 69 Households Assisted
6	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$106,880	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 16 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted
8	Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$150,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 30 Household Housing Unit
9	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$494,666	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9254 Persons Assisted
10	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$0	

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
11	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$285,233	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1388 Persons Assisted
12	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$142,926 ESG: \$157,438	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 640 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 145 Persons Assisted
13	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
14	Removal of Blighted Buildings	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$0	
15	Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$0	

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Goal Description	<p>Housing Counseling in conjunction with direct homeownership assistance designed to provide homebuyers/owners with pre-purchase and post-purchase counseling that provides budget and credit counseling, the costs of owning a home and homebuying process including credit repair, modification assistance, lender negotiations, and other appropriate referrals to avoid the loss of a home to foreclosure. Examples of assistance may include a mortgage write down, closing cost assistance, and down payment assistance as a means to increase the affordability of homeownership for low to moderate-income persons.</p> <p><i>Planned Activities include homebuyer counseling and financial assistance to potential homebuyers.</i></p>
2	Goal Name	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing
	Goal Description	<p>Promote Fair Housing outreach and education in collaboration with certified Housing Counseling and FHIP Agencies</p> <p><i>Planned activities include collaboration with certified Housing Counseling and FHIP Agencies to facilitate Fair Housing educational workshops/seminars for county residents, housing advocates, property owners, rental licensees, and housing developers to provide most recent information regarding housing law and tenant/landlord/homebuyer rights.</i></p>
4	Goal Name	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness
	Goal Description	<p>Assist persons at-risk of homelessness through eviction prevention and other diversion activities funded with CDBG or ESG.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include financial assistance like utility payments, back rent or security deposits to prevent eviction or diversion from shelter entry. Activities may also include other supports to include financial literacy training, counseling and/or referral services.</i></p>

5	Goal Name	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Goal Description	<p>Support emergency and transitional housing through a variety of short-term housing options for citizens experiencing homelessness to get them rehoused and on their way to self-sufficiency, including rapid rehousing through ESG as well as permanent housing supports as well as acquisitions, construction or rehabilitation of permanent housing or other units for the homeless using CDBG, HOME or ESG funds.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include financial support for emergency and transitional shelters, including domestic violence programs, as well as other creative approaches as needed. ESG Rapid Rehousing efforts are measured using Goal Outcome Indicator (GOI) 12. Operational support of Permanent Supportive Housing programs use GOI 4, and transitional housing uses GOI 13.</i></p>
6	Goal Name	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Goal Description	Support development of or rehabilitation of Alternative Living Units or other small group settings for persons living with a disability.
7	Goal Name	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs
	Goal Description	<p>Support shelter and transitional housing needs of non-homeless special needs populations funded with CDBG or ESG.</p> <p><i>Planned activities could include emergency shelter, transitional housing or other types of housing for non-homeless special needs populations like survivors of domestic violence, substance abuse, and other special needs populations or the rehabilitation of construction of facilities to support these needs. For FY21, state and local funds are projected to support the operational activities associated with our domestic violence shelters. Should those funds no longer be available, the County reserves the right to use CDBG or ESG funds to assist these efforts.</i></p>
8	Goal Name	Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled
	Goal Description	<p>Support housing accessibility modifications to rental and homeowner units to help citizens living with a disability gain access or maintain access to suitable living accommodations.</p> <p><i>Planned activities include accessibility modifications that could include ramps, bathroom modifications, kitchen modifications, stair glides, and other changes to an owner occupied home or rental unit of a low to moderate-income person living with a disability.</i></p>

9	Goal Name	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Goal Description	<p>Provide funds for rehabilitation/construction of community centers, recreation centers, senior centers, etc in CDBG eligible areas/facilities so Baltimore County citizens may experience indoor community activities and services.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include rehabilitation of existing community centers or construction of new facilities in income-eligible neighborhoods/facilities for things like community centers, recreation centers, and senior centers. Funds could also be used to support rehabilitation/construction of buildings operated by a nonprofit organization in support of CDBG-eligible populations.</i></p>
10	Goal Name	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors
	Goal Description	<p>Provide funds for rehabilitation/construction of public facilities - including outdoor recreation centers, trails, parks, street improvements, sidewalks, flood drainage, etc in CDBG eligible areas of Baltimore County so citizens may experience strong communities and neighborhoods.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include any number of CDBG eligible activities.</i></p>
11	Goal Name	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Goal Description	<p>Increase access to quality public services by supporting programs and services that improve the suitable living environment for those low and moderate-income citizens in need of additional services.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include child care/youth or afterschool programs, senior services, employment training including literacy, health/mental health services, substance abuse services, services for victims of domestic violence or child abuse/neglect, family support, food assistance, and other CDBG-eligible services.</i></p>
12	Goal Name	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless
	Goal Description	<p>Increase access to quality public (supportive) services for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Per HUD guidance, ESG funded Street Outreach is also included here as Homeless Overnight Shelter.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include educational support services for youth homeless, food assistance, health care services, domestic violence supports, child care or after school services for children and other identified non-housing needs for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.</i></p>

13	Goal Name	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses
	Goal Description	<p>Establish, stabilize, and expand small and micro businesses through support services and programs that provide small and micro business with loans to citizens for microenterprise opportunities in order to establish, stabilize, and expand.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include financial assistance to County citizens of low to moderate income in efforts to improve their economic circumstances through employment opportunities. Funds for this activity in FY21 are captured under Public Service - NonHomeless. Future activities may be moved here if applicable.</i></p>
14	Goal Name	Removal of Blighted Buildings
	Goal Description	<p>Clearance or demolition of building/improvements.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include the demolition of blighted properties in CDBG income-eligible neighborhoods for building posing a public health risk.</i></p>
15	Goal Name	Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities
	Goal Description	<p>Maintain and increase the supply of decent housing in order to maintain livable communities.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include salaries and overhead costs associated with property inspections and follow up actions (such as legal proceedings) directly related to enforcement (not correction) or state and local codes.</i></p>

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The selection of projects in this year's Action Plan is based upon the priority needs, goals, strategies and outcomes identified in the County's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The vast majority of projects were identified through one of several Request for Proposal processes undertaken by the County to solicit projects that met the priority needs of the County. An annual hearing to gain citizen input on priority need areas and opportunities for expanded programming was part of this RFP process. The projects selected herein address the County's priority goal areas of: Affordable Housing, Housing for the Homeless/Those At-Risk of Homelessness, Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs, Community Infrastructure Improvements, and Community Sustainability. The projects will use federal entitlement funds through CDBG, HOME and ESG, but these funds will leverage additional federal funds through the Continuum of Care program as well as State and County funds to support the priority goal areas mentioned above.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Public Facilities - ARC Baltimore - Alternative Living Unit for Two
2	Public Facilities - The Chimes Foundation - Two Residences Serving 7 Adults
3	Public Facilities - The League for People with Disabilities - Doorway Entry System
4	Public Facilities - National Center on Institutions & Alternatives - Reisterstown Dwelling (3 Units)
5	Public Facilities - National Center on Institutions & Alternatives - Randallstown Dwelling (3 Units)
6	Public Facilities - Richcroft, Inc (Parkville - Alternative Living Unit for 4 Persons)
7	Public Services - Balance of Funds
8	Public Services - Abilities Network - Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness
9	Public Services - Baltimore County - Homeless Shelter Nurse Program
10	Public Services - CASA of Baltimore County, Inc. - Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children
11	Public Services - CASA, Inc, Expanded Baltimore County Education and Assistance Program
12	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Arbutus Permanent Supportive Housing
13	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Outreach Program
14	Public Services - Cornerstone Community Housing - Prospect Place PSH
15	Public Services - Easter Seals - Medical Adult Day Services in Baltimore
16	Public Services - Heroes Helping Heroes - At-Risk Youth After School Program

#	Project Name
17	Public Services - Liberty's Promise, Inc., Helping Immigrant Youth Succeed
18	Public Services - Lighthouse, Inc, Open Door Initiative
19	Public Services - Lighthouse, Inc, TOGETHER Project
20	Public Services - TALMAR, Farm-Based Therapies for People with Special Needs
21	General Administration and Activities Subject to the 20% Admin Cap
22	General Administration - Fair Housing Activities - Subject to the 20% Cap
23	General Administration - Fair Housing Regional Coordination - Subject to 20% Cap
24	ESG23 Baltimore County
25	Housing Rehabilitation Program
26	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
27	Housing Services
28	Housing Counseling Services - CDBG, HOME, County
29	OLD CDBG - Rosedale New Rental Development for Families
30	OLD HOME & CDBG - 404 Fairmont Ave, East Towson
31	OLD HOME & CDBG - Oak Avenue
32	HOME - CHDO Operating - 5%
33	HOME - CHDO Set Aside - 15% Minimum PLUS- Eastside CDC
34	HOME Acquisition, Rehab and Preservation
35	HOME Administration - Balance
36	HOME - Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP)
37	HOME - Senior Rehabilitation Program for Homeowners (25 Units)
38	HOME - Sisterhood Agenda Permanent Supportive Housing Construction

Table 7 - Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

Baltimore County seeks to create decent and fair housing in a suitable living environment with expanded economic opportunities for its citizens. The County wishes to minimize the number of its citizens experiencing homelessness and address those citizens with special needs. The priorities for allocating our federal funds followed those priority goal areas identified in this section's introduction. As part of the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County is spending much of its County General Fund dollars in identified Opportunity Areas. Programs and Services in these areas are of great importance to the future of the County citizens, but not to the exclusion of those living in other areas of the County. Baltimore County will prioritize housing and other services to Opportunity Areas while continuing to support the needs of those living in Sustainable Community Areas and Community Conservation Areas. Many public services, like those for domestic violence and homelessness/eviction prevention, are available countywide.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Public Facilities - ARC Baltimore - Alternative Living Unit for Two
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$21,000
	Description	The Arc Baltimore, Inc. will implement improvements designed to enhance and strengthen accessibility features at a residential dwelling it owns and operates in the Parkville community that serves two adults with disabilities. The project will improve safety and accessibility features by establishing a rear exit door with a small porch and a short ramp, thus providing a new point of ingress/egress. The project will also install a wheelchair accessible ramp and walkway to the front of the dwelling.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Two adults living with disabilities.
	Location Description	Project will be located in the Parkville community.
2	Planned Activities	The Arc Baltimore, Inc. will implement improvements designed to enhance and strengthen accessibility features at a residential dwelling it owns and operates in the Parkville community that serves two adults with disabilities. The project will improve safety and accessibility features by establishing a rear exit door with a small porch and a short ramp, thus providing a new point of ingress/egress. The project will also install a wheelchair accessible ramp and walkway to the front of the dwelling.
	Project Name	Public Facilities - The Chimes Foundation - Two Residences Serving 7 Adults
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$236,500

	Description	The Chimes Foundation, Inc. will implement major repairs and improvements to two residential dwellings it owns and operates in Baltimore County that serve adults with disabilities. One home is in the Lutherville community and serves three clients; the other home is in the Pikesville community and serves four clients. The projects will improve wheelchair accessibility at both homes. At the Lutherville home, three bathrooms will be renovated and made accessible; also, new flooring and an accessibility ramp will be installed. At the Pikesville Home, wheelchair accessibility will be enhanced by renovations to a bathroom and the kitchen.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Seven adults living with disabilities will be assisted
	Location Description	One home assisted will be in the Lutherville area and the other home will be in the Pikesville area of Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	The Chimes Foundation, Inc. will implement major repairs and improvements to two residential dwellings it owns and operates in Baltimore County that serve adults with disabilities. One home is in the Lutherville community and serves three clients; the other home is in the Pikesville community and serves four clients. The projects will improve wheelchair accessibility at both homes. At the Lutherville home, three bathrooms will be renovated and made accessible; also, new flooring and an accessibility ramp will be installed. At the Pikesville Home, wheelchair accessibility will be enhanced by renovations to a bathroom and the kitchen.
3	Project Name	Public Facilities - The League for People with Disabilities - Doorway Entry System
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000

	Description	The League for People with Disabilities will install a new doorway system, improving the functionality of the main entrance of its headquarters facility, which serves up to 2,000 people with disabilities annually. The new doorway will replace an aging building component and feature an air curtain system to maintain comfortable temperatures in the lobby.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,000 people annually are served at this facility and expected to make use of the improved doorway system and functionality of the main entrance.
	Location Description	1111 East Cold Spring Lane, Baltimore MD. Although the physical location is in Baltimore City, this facility serves as a regional center for persons living with disabilities and is an important resource for many Baltimore County residents. It is just a couple of miles over the County/City line. It's central location means it is used by County residents from multiple regions of Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	The League for People with Disabilities will install a new doorway system, improving the functionality of the main entrance of its headquarters facility, which serves up to 2,000 people with disabilities annually. The new doorway will replace an aging building component and feature an air curtain system to maintain comfortable temperatures in the lobby.
4	Project Name	Public Facilities - National Center on Institutions & Alternatives - Reisterstown Dwelling (3 Unit)
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$136,674

	Description	The National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, Inc. (NCIA) will implement comprehensive rehabilitation work and accessibility improvements at a residential dwelling it owns and operates in the Reisterstown community. The home is expected to serve three adults with disabilities. The project will renovate two main-level bedrooms and establish two ADA-compliant bathrooms. Also, a new bedroom will be established in the lower level. Additional work will provide a backup generator system, and address wear and tear associated with the structure that is more than 50 years old.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The home is expected to serve three adults living with disabilities.
	Location Description	The home is located in Reisterstown.
	Planned Activities	The National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, Inc. (NCIA) will implement comprehensive rehabilitation work and accessibility improvements at a residential dwelling it owns and operates in the Reisterstown community. The home is expected to serve three adults with disabilities. The project will renovate two main-level bedrooms and establish two ADA-compliant bathrooms. Also, a new bedroom will be established in the lower level. Additional work will provide a backup generator system, and address wear and tear associated with the structure that is more than 50 years old.
5	Project Name	Public Facilities - National Center on Institutions & Alternatives - Randallstown Dwelling 3 Unit
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$148,299

	Description	The National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, Inc. (NCIA) will implement comprehensive rehabilitation work and accessibility improvements at a residential dwelling it owns and operates in the Randallstown community. The home is expected to serve three adults with disabilities. The project will remove existing architectural barriers, widening hallways and doorways to make the main level wheelchair accessible. The main-level bathroom will be modified to establish accessibility and the lower level of the home will be renovated to establish a new bedroom and an ADA-compliant bathroom. A new ramp will be installed to improve exterior access to the home, which will also receive installation of a backup generator system.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The home will serve three adults living with a disability.
	Location Description	Randallstown
	Planned Activities	The National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, Inc. (NCIA) will implement comprehensive rehabilitation work and accessibility improvements at a residential dwelling it owns and operates in the Randallstown community. The home is expected to serve three adults with disabilities. The project will remove existing architectural barriers, widening hallways and doorways to make the main level wheelchair accessible. The main-level bathroom will be modified to establish accessibility and the lower level of the home will be renovated to establish a new bedroom and an ADA-compliant bathroom. A new ramp will be installed to improve exterior access to the home, which will also receive installation of a backup generator system.
6	Project Name	Public Facilities - Richcroft, Inc (Parkville - Alternative Living Unit 4 Persons)
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$69,000

	Description	Richcroft, Inc. will implement rehabilitation work to address structural deficiencies at a Parkville-area dwelling it owns and operates that serves four individuals with disabilities. The home's roof has aged beyond its useful lifespan and will be replaced. Persistent water intrusions indicate a need for re-grading and re-paving certain surfaces surrounding the home, altering elevations, grades and pitches to establish proper drainage channels.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four adults living with a disability.
	Location Description	Parkville
	Planned Activities	Richcroft, Inc. will implement rehabilitation work to address structural deficiencies at a Parkville-area dwelling it owns and operates that serves four individuals with disabilities. The home's roof has aged beyond its useful lifespan and will be replaced. Persistent water intrusions indicate a need for re-grading and re-paving certain surfaces surrounding the home, altering elevations, grades and pitches to establish proper drainage channels.
7	Project Name	Public Services - Balance of Funds
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$53,464

	Description	Remaining funds in support of public services that may arise in support of a range of CDBG eligible services to low to moderate-income citizens and presumed beneficiary groups, including but limited to eviction prevention services, shelter/transitional/permanent housing support, services for children/youth, the elderly, those battling substance abuse, victims of domestic violence, persons with disabilities, etc. Eviction Prevention programs funded with CDBG can offer up to three months of assistance to avert eviction and maintain stable housing and may include referrals or services to further identify/address factors that may be contributing to housing instability. Once an eligible project has been identified for use with these funds, this Action Plan will be amended with a full description, accomplishment data, location, and number/type of families assisted so that the public may understand the impact of this project on the County.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Will be determined by project application type
	Location Description	Will be determined by individual applications submitted to Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	Remaining funds in support of public services that may arise in support of a range of CDBG eligible services to low to moderate-income citizens and presumed beneficiary groups, including but limited to eviction prevention services, shelter/transitional/permanent housing support, services for children/youth, the elderly, those battling substance abuse, victims of domestic violence, persons with disabilities, etc. Eviction Prevention programs funded with CDBG can offer up to three months of assistance to avert eviction and maintain stable housing and may include referrals or services to further identify/address factors that may be contributing to housing instability. Once an eligible project has been identified for use with these funds, this Action Plan will be amended with a full description, accomplishment data, location, and number/type of families assisted so that the public may understand the impact of this project on the County.
8	Project Name	Public Services - Abilities Network - Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness

	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Project ACT (All Children Together) is a program of the Abilities Network, Inc. organization that promotes high quality, inclusive early childhood education experiences for children by providing training and consultation services to early childhood professionals and families. Through coaching, mentoring, advocating, training, and the provision of resources, Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness supports educators' and families' use of inclusive practices to foster healthy social-emotional development, build resiliency and address the mental health and behavioral needs of children. Project ACT partners with families and early childhood professionals to develop solutions, prevent expulsions and encourage the natural growth of the children.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 90 children from 60 households will receive high quality, inclusive early childhood educational experiences and families will learn inclusive practices to foster healthy social-emotional development, build resiliency and address mental health and behavioral needs of children.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Project ACT (All Children Together) is a program of the Abilities Network, Inc. organization that promotes high quality, inclusive early childhood education experiences for children by providing training and consultation services to early childhood professionals and families. Through coaching, mentoring, advocating, training, and the provision of resources, Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness supports educators' and families' use of inclusive practices to foster healthy social-emotional development, build resiliency and address the mental health and behavioral needs of children. Project ACT partners with families and early childhood professionals to develop solutions, prevent expulsions and encourage the natural growth of the children. 90 individuals representing 60 households will benefit from this program.
9	Project Name	Public Services - Baltimore County - Homeless Shelter Nurse Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless

	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$125,000 County General Funds: \$45,000
	Description	On-site, short-term, nursing case management services to approximately 600 shelter residents at the county's largest homeless shelters. Priority is given to clients with acute and chronic health needs with the goal of reducing health disparities and barriers to permanent housing.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	600 individuals representing 450 households
	Location Description	Two largest homeless shelters with regular nursing services are located in Rosedale and Catonsville. Nursing services can also be requested of the county for other shelters as needed.
	Planned Activities	SNP follows a case management model with a focus on reducing health barriers that may impact shelter residents' ability to maintain permanent housing. Shelter nurses work to identify health issues, provide appropriate interventions and referrals, and work with other homeless service providers to develop individualized plans of care to address the specific needs of the residents. This is accomplished by providing on-site, short-term, nursing case management services. The shelter nurses work in collaboration with the shelter managers and staff to assure residents receive individual and congregate living health education, health screenings and nursing services based on best practices as identified by Poulton B. et al, who identify "public health nursing as a key role, not only in intervention but also in the assessment of need, self-care skills to meet needs, referral and access to further care and health promotion and protection."
10	Project Name	Public Services - CASA of Baltimore County, Inc. - Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000

	Description	CASA of Baltimore County will recruit, screen, train, and support citizen volunteers who will serve as court-authorized advocates for 200 children from 160 households who are victims of abuse and neglect and are involved in Baltimore County court proceedings through the child welfare system. Volunteer advocates will develop close relationships with the children and will research and interview all adults involved in the cases, in order to make fact-based recommendations to the court as to the best interests of the children. Additionally, advocates will ensure that court-ordered medical, psychological, educational, and other services for the children are carried out and will monitor progress of the family as they work to address what brought the child into foster care. Particular attention will be given to older youth approaching independence and those having recently "aged out" of the foster care system, as they often require additional supports.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 children from 160 households will benefit from CASA services
	Location Description	Headquarters building is in Towson, but participants will come from throughout Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	CASA of Baltimore County will recruit, screen, train, and support citizen volunteers who will serve as court-authorized advocates for 200 children from 160 households who are victims of abuse and neglect and are involved in Baltimore County court proceedings through the child welfare system. Volunteer advocates will develop close relationships with the children and will research and interview all adults involved in the cases, in order to make fact-based recommendations to the court as to the best interests of the children. Additionally, advocates will ensure that court-ordered medical, psychological, educational, and other services for the children are carried out and will monitor progress of the family as they work to address what brought the child into foster care. Particular attention will be given to older youth approaching independence and those having recently "aged out" of the foster care system, as they often require additional supports.
11	Project Name	Public Services - CASA, Inc, Expanded Baltimore County Education and Assistance Program

	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	This program includes linguistically and culturally competent outreach to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) residents, focusing on Latino and Black immigrant communities, in targeted areas of the county. Community education on key financial, legal, health and workforce topics of importance to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) immigrant residents. Comprehensive screening/needs assessment, navigation and enrollment assistance of low-income LEP residents into available public benefits provided both by CASA and external partners on issues such as health care access, legal and social services (including support and interpretation services in navigating government systems as needed); taxes and citizenship; job readiness; education; and others. After school and college access programming for immigrant youth at partner high schools.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	666 individuals from 432 households
	Location Description	Services are offered at Owings Mills High School and may also occur in other locations as needed in Baltimore County. Headquarters for the organization is located in Baltimore City at 2224 E. Fayette Street.

	Planned Activities	This program includes linguistically and culturally competent outreach to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) residents, focusing on Latino and Black immigrant communities, in targeted areas of the county. Community education on key financial, legal, health and workforce topics of importance to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) immigrant residents. Comprehensive screening/needs assessment, navigation and enrollment assistance of low-income LEP residents into available public benefits provided both by CASA and external partners on issues such as health care access, legal and social services (including support and interpretation services in navigating government systems as needed); taxes and citizenship; job readiness; education; and others. Afterschool and college access programming for immigrant youth at partner high schools.
12	Project Name	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Arbutus Permanent Supportive Housing
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$66,608 Continuum of Care: \$92,816 Homeless Solutions Program: \$19,000
	Description	Operational support for 13 unit single room occupancy permanent supportive housing project. CDBG funding will be paired with CoC funds and State HSP funds.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	13 individuals in 13 households
	Location Description	Facility is located in Rosedale, but residents are eligible countywide.
	Planned Activities	Operating support for Arbutus Permanent Supportive Housing facility with 13 single room occupancy units for chronically homeless single women.
13	Project Name	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Outreach Program
	Target Area	Countywide

	Goals Supported	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness
	Funding	County General Funds: \$273,900
	Description	Outreach services will provide: emergency grants to help forestall eviction; security deposit assistance to help household move to affordable housing; budget/financial counseling, case management, and other referrals to resources for mainstream benefits, food, childcare, job assistance, etc. CDBG funding will be paired with County General Funds of \$273,900.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	375 individuals from 150 households
	Location Description	Outreach sites throughout the County. Eligibility is countywide.
	Planned Activities	Emergency grants to help forestall eviction; security deposit assistance to help household move to affordable housing; budget/financial counseling, case management, and other referrals to resources for mainstream benefits, food, childcare, job assistance, etc.
14	Project Name	Public Services - Cornerstone Community Housing - Prospect Place PSH
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$49,000
	Description	Using a Housing First model, Cornerstone Community Housing, Prospect Place, provides permanent housing and case management assistance to 13 chronically homeless men and assists in developing goals and locating resources.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	13 individuals representing 13 households

	Location Description	Project is located in Rosedale, but eligibility is countywide.
	Planned Activities	13 Chronically homeless tenants have a lease in their name and full rights of tenancy under landlord-tenant law. Participation in case management and other services is voluntary and tenants cannot be evicted for rejecting services. Housing is not time-limited, and the lease is renewable at tenants' and owners' option. Tenants pay no more than 30 percent of their income towards rent, with the balance available for discretionary spending. Tenants can choose from a range of supportive services based on their needs and preferences. Grant funds will support salary and fringe costs.
15	Project Name	Public Services - Easter Seals - Medical Adult Day Services in Baltimore
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$21,000
	Description	Community-based supports for largely elderly and extremely vulnerable County residents at-risk of losing their independence due to physical frailty, intellectual/developmental disabilities, memory impairments or disabling condition like Alzheimer's or stroke.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	190 individuals representing 180 households.
	Location Description	Project is located in Windsor Mill. Participants could come from anywhere in the County, but are largely from the County's west side.

	Planned Activities	ADS-B offers a wide range of structured services built around individual interests, choices and abilities. The project provides medically supervised care; daily personal care - including toileting assistance; wheelchair accessible transportation to/from homes; nutritious meals and snacks that accommodate a wide range of special diets; organized and stimulating individual and group activities; community outings; daily exercise programs; educational programs; onsite occupational, speech, and physical therapies; adaptive equipment training; skilled nursing services and medical monitoring with interventions that include daily nursing assessments, blood pressure checks, medication administration & injections, diabetes management/blood glucose monitoring, and regular health screenings including checks for mental health, fall risk, and depression. Services for caregivers include respite and interventions to reduce isolation, increase knowledge, and build confidence in ability to care for loved ones.
16	Project Name	Public Services - Heroes Helping Heroes - At-Risk Youth After School Program
	Target Area	Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
	Description	After school development program aimed at improving academics, life skills and athletic ability of 120 at-risk Baltimore County youth ages 5 to 18. The program is built on three core elements - academic achievement, community services, and teamwork through athletics.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	120 youth from 120 households living in the Middle River area.
	Location Description	Salvation Army Middle River Boys and Girls Club in Middle River and at Middle River Middle School.

	Planned Activities	Heroes Helping Heroes is a community based after school youth development program aimed at improving the academics, character, and athletic ability of at-risk Baltimore County youth ages 5 to 18. The uniquely designed proactive program is built upon a core structure of three central elements, academic achievement, community service, and teamwork through athletics. Academic success is achieved through monitoring and improving school attendance, structured homework time and academic tutoring. Community service, the unique hallmark of the Heroes Helping Heroes program, involves youth in volunteering with pediatric hospital patients. The third element of the program emphasizes developing goals, teamwork, and a strong work ethic through participation on competitive basketball teams.
17	Project Name	Public Services - Liberty's Promise, Inc., Helping Immigrant Youth Succeed
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
	Description	The program educates low-income, immigrant youth about opportunities and resources in a welcoming environment where they feel comfortable exploring all the possibilities of their futures. Topics for immigrant youth include civic knowledge, community engagement, high school and college readiness, and career exploration. Students participate in hands-on activities, are introduced to new role models, and begin acclimating to their new community on field trips.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	72 individuals from 72 households
	Location Description	Lansdowne and Sudbrook Middle Schools catchment areas of Baltimore County. Lansdowne Middle - 2400 Lansdowne Road, Baltimore MD 21227 and Sudbrook Magnet Middle School - 4300 Bedford Road, Baltimore, MD 21208

	Planned Activities	Liberty's Promise works with Baltimore County newcomers who come from every part of the world seeking a better life. The program works with those new immigrants facing challenges, including financial hardship and a discouraging lack of information about what they need to do to succeed in their new community. The Civics and Citizenship Junior (C&C Junior) program in Lansdowne Middle School and Sudbrook Magnet Middle School is designed to fill that gap, inspiring immigrant youth to set big goals and equipping them to pursue their own American dream. The program educates low-income, immigrant youth about opportunities and resources in a welcoming environment, where they feel comfortable exploring all the possibilities of their future. The program focuses on four core elements to help implement personal growth and development: Civic Knowledge, Community Engagement, High School and College Readiness, and Career Exploration. With these four pillars in mind, students participate in hands-on activities, are introduced to new role models, and begin acclimating to their new community on field trips.
18	Project Name	Public Services - Lighthouse, Inc, Open Door Initiative
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Open Door Initiative provides a combination of weekly individual, family, and/or group counseling for LGBTQ+ clients and first generation immigrant clients by licensed counselors, clinical interns and a psychoeducational support group.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	48 individuals representing 43 households
	Location Description	Project is located in Catonsville, but is open to residents countywide.

	Planned Activities	Through the Open Door Initiative, clients will be served by a combination of individual, family, and/or group counseling. LGBTQ+ clients, and unaccompanied minor clients will receive individual counseling, using evidence-based therapeutic interventions, with family included at the discretion of the counselor and by agreement of the client. The first generation immigrant clients will be served by a psychoeducational support group, First Gen, currently in development by clinicians who are, themselves, first generation Americans. Neurodivergent clients will be served by our Sociabilities group curriculum, currently being revised and updated in preparation for reintroduction in FY24. The First Gen and Sociabilities group clients will have the option of adding individual and/or family counseling as needed.
19	Project Name	Public Services - Lighthouse, Inc, TOGETHER Project
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$36,730
	Description	Services include counseling, support, psychoeducation, information and referrals for Baltimore County residents affected by a loved one's opioid use, including abuse, addiction, incarceration and overdose deaths.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	63 individuals representing 45 households
	Location Description	Project is located in Catonsville, but open to residents countywide

	Planned Activities	The project will provide mental health and behavioral health counseling services and wraparound services to meet the needs of this population such as food assistance, utility cut-off services, eviction prevention services, and drug counseling referrals. Lighthouse offers their counseling, support, psychoeducation, information and referrals for Baltimore County residents affected by a loved one's opioid use, including abuse, addiction, incarceration and overdose deaths. Lighthouse incorporates both virtual counseling via a HIPAA-compliant videoconferencing platform, and in-person individual and family counseling. Services include counseling focused on grief and loss, substance use prevention, stress management and healthy coping skills, trauma, family relationships, and parenting skills. Targeted webinars, workshops and trainings will be produced to address the stressors facing those affected by a family member's opioid use, such as grandparents raising grandchildren; children's struggles with parents' drug use; maintaining healthy boundaries with a substance abusing family member, and other relevant topics. Lighthouse will also address issues around the opioid crisis through its usual outreach channels to include community health fairs, social media, speaking engagements at areas schools and other community locations.
20	Project Name	Public Services - TALMAR, Farm-Based Therapies for People with Special Needs
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	TALMAR will provide agriculture-based therapies to individuals, families and small groups of people with special needs in Baltimore County on its campus inside of Cromwell Valley Park. Activities are tailored to each participant to ensure they are supposed in reaching goals they set for themselves.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 individuals representing 265 households

	Location Description	1994 Cromwell Bridget Road, Parkville, MD 21234. Cromwell Valley Park, but open to residents countywide
	Planned Activities	TALMAR will provide agriculture-based therapies to individuals, families and small groups of people with special needs in Baltimore County on its campus inside of Cromwell Valley Park. Activities are tailored to each participant to ensure they are supposed in reaching goals they set for themselves.
21	Project Name	General Administration and Activities Subject to the 20% Admin Cap
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$953,270
	Description	Funds are used for the coordination, administration, and implementation of eligible activities under the CDBG Program, ESG Program and Continuum of Care Programs as well as other federal, state and local efforts supporting CDBG-eligible activities. Included in these efforts are eligible CDBG planning and fair housing activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable. Administrative funds.
	Location Description	Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	General administration and planning activities
22	Project Name	General Administration - Fair Housing Activities - Subject to the 20% Cap
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000 County General Funds: \$100,000

	Description	Funds activities in support of vendor services around Fair Housing testing and referrals. This is an administrative activity promoting the County's Fair Housing efforts. Services include fair housing outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing and investigation of complaints/referrals. Services are currently being provided by Fair Housing Action Center of Maryland, but the contract is ending and the County's purchasing office will be selecting a fair housing provider again using a competitive bidding process during this Action Plan period.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 Fair Housing rental tests and 20 Fair Housing mortgage lending tests
	Location Description	Oversight is at Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204. Tests will take place around the County based on need.
	Planned Activities	Funds will support \$50,000 worth of CDBG costs associated with conducting fair housing tests throughout the County. An additional \$100,000 in County General Funds support the education, outreach, and \$85,000 in ARPA funding supports the tenant landlord counseling to assist households and landlords feeling the stress of the COVID pandemic and now transitioning into a COVID recovery period. No GOI indicators numbers are included for this activity subject to the 20% cap. This is an administrative activity promoting the County's Fair housing efforts. Services include fair housing outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing and investigation of complaints/referrals. Services are currently being provided by Fair Housing Action Center of Maryland, but the contract is ending and the County's purchasing office will be selecting a fair housing provider again using a competitive bidding process during this Action Plan period.
23	Project Name	General Administration - Fair Housing Regional Coordination - Subject to 20% Cap
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$13,800

	Description	Funds support Baltimore County's portion of the Baltimore Metro Council's Fair Housing Regional Coordination staff work.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	This is administrative activity related to Fair Housing Activities of the Baltimore Metro Region. Funds support Baltimore County's portion of the Baltimore Metro Council's Fair Housing Regional Coordination staff work.
24	Project Name	ESG23 Baltimore County
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness Community Sustainability
	Funding	ESG: \$414,255

	Description	Federal Program Year 2023 HESG funds (\$370,255) will provide the foundation, with prior year HESG balance funds of \$44,122 for an expected total of \$414,377 available for use in CFY 2024. Funds will support selected organizations that will (a) assist in rapidly rehousing (RRH) persons who are chronically homeless, (b) provide street outreach to individuals and families who are homeless and have one or more qualifying special needs, (c) support emergency shelter operations. The County anticipates serving 69 households (approximately 177 individuals (GOI 12)) with RRH services provided by Cornerstone Franciscan Ministries and St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore, Inc. The County anticipates serving 145 individuals via street outreach efforts (GOI 13), with Prologue, Inc and the Community Assistance Network serving as providers, and 50 households receiving emergency shelter services (GOI 14). Baltimore County will also utilize 7.5% of the funds for salary costs associated with the coordination, administration, and implementation of the ESG program. No ESG funds are currently planned for homelessness prevention or HMIS, but the County reserves the right to use ESG funding for those purposes should the need arise and funding is available.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
25	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$790,938

	Description	Funds will be used to support CDBG-eligible acquisition and rehabilitation activities. Example include, but are not limited to, assisting eligible homeowners make needed repairs to their properties; accessibility renovations to assist those with disabilities (renters and homeowners) make renovations to their living units so they are accessible; and assistance to developers attempting to provide greater housing options by rehabilitating properties for Baltimore County residents. FY23 Entitlement funds will be paired with \$750,000 in old CDBG funding.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	16 low-income households will receive assistance with the rehabilitation of their homes. 25 homeowners living with a disability will receive assistance through the HAMP program. 5 renters will receive similar HAMP assistance.
	Location Description	105 W Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204 is the administrative address. Actual locations will be identified as client applications are reviewed after client application submission.
	Planned Activities	The County plans to serve 16 single family households with \$670,000 in FFY23 Entitlement funded rehabilitation assistance and \$50,000 in old CDBG. The Housing Accessibility Modification Program (HAMP) is projected to provide rehabilitation assistance to 25 homeowners (\$100,000 in FFY23 Entitlement funds and \$150,000 in old CDBG) and 5 renters living with disabilities (\$20,938 in FFY23 Entitlement funds and \$29,062 in old CDBG).
26	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$783,002

	Description	CDBG-funded program delivery and salary costs associated with the Housing Accessibility Modification Program, Single Family Rehabilitation Program and the Multi Family Rental Rehabilitation Programs. Activities include construction/rehabilitation inspections, loan management, loan underwriting and other costs supporting the delivery of rehabilitation program performance goals and audit compliant CDBG-funded program activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity provides salary and program delivery costs associated with oversight.
	Location Description	105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson, MD 21204 is the administrative headquarters for this activity.
	Planned Activities	This is a program delivery activity funding salary and program delivery costs associated with construction management and loan oversight.
27	Project Name	Housing Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$757,789
	Description	Funds are used for the oversight/program delivery of the County's housing development efforts associated with the Housing Opportunities (rehabilitation) Program which includes HOME funded rehabilitation loans, direct home-ownership assistance and housing development.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity associated with oversight of the housing loans, direct homeownership assistance, and housing development.
	Location Description	105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204

	Planned Activities	Activities include construction/rehab inspections, loan management, and loan underwriting. Funds are used for staff oversight/program delivery of the County's housing development efforts associated with the Housing Opportunities (rehabilitation) Program which includes HOME funded rehabilitation loans, direct home-ownership assistance and housing development.
28	Project Name	Housing Counseling Services - CDBG, HOME, County
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$190,000 HOME: \$170,000 County General Funds: \$300,000
	Description	Project supports direct homeownership counseling for pre-purchase, post-purchase and foreclosure counseling to residents expecting to purchase a home in the County and/or residing in Baltimore County. Entitlement support will be \$190,000 in CDBG and \$170,000 in HOME.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 35 counseled homeowners will receive direct homeownership counseling assistance resulting in Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP) assistance to homebuyers in Baltimore County. Federal funds support this activity. County general funds support additional housing counseling activities.
	Location Description	Exact addresses for SELP loans will be selected by potential homeowners.
	Planned Activities	Contracted nonprofit providers will provide homeownership counseling for pre-purchase, post-purchase and foreclosure counseling to residents interested in purchasing homes in Baltimore County. Of those receiving counseling, approximately 35 will be provided direct assistance through the SELP program. Actual numbers served will be captured as part of the SELP loan activity.
29	Project Name	OLD CDBG - Rosedale New Rental Development for Families
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing

	Funding	CDBG: \$2,000,000
	Description	This project will use \$2,000,000 of OLD CDBG to create 40 townhomes in areas of opportunity for low-income households in accordance with the VCA.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 low-income households will have access to new affordable housing.
	Location Description	Rosedale Community
	Planned Activities	Construction of 40 new rental units in an Opportunity Area available to house lower-income renters in the Rosedale neighborhood.
30	Project Name	OLD HOME & CDBG - 404 Fairmont Ave, East Towson
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000 HOME: \$240,000 VCA Related: \$150,000
	Description	This project will use \$75,000 of OLD CDBG, \$240,000 in OLD HOME, and \$150,000 in VCA-related funding to preserve an historic unit in Historic East Towson and convert the unit into rental property for a low-income household in accordance with the current VCA agreement.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One low-income household will benefit from this preservation project creating an additional affordable housing rental unit.
	Location Description	404 East Fairmount Avenue, Towson MD 21286
	Planned Activities	Preservation of property in Historic East Towson at 404 East Fairmount with intention of utilizing the property as a rental unit for low-income household.

31	Project Name	OLD HOME & CDBG - Oak Avenue
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000 HOME: \$900,000
	Description	This project will use \$200,000 of OLD CDBG funds and \$900,000 of OLD HOME funds during the Action Plan period. The project will involve rehabilitation of two units and construction of two units of rental for the use of young adult mothers of low-income.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four households headed by young women of low-income with families
	Location Description	Houses and parcel at 1900 block of Oak Drive in the Gwynn Oak Community.
32	Planned Activities	The project is located in an Opportunity Area and will provide rehabilitation of two units and construction of two new units. All four units will provide rental housing to young adult mothers of lower income.
	Project Name	HOME - CHDO Operating - 5%
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$150,000
	Description	Three CHDO organizations will be assisted. Eastside Community Development Corporation and Sisterhood Agenda will each receive \$50,000 in assistance. A third CHDO will be named once identified. OLD HOME funds will be used to cover the balance of the \$150,000 project cost.
	Target Date	6/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	CHDO Operating costs. Not beneficiary data.
	Location Description	Corporate locations of Eastside CDC and Sisterhood Agenda. Third location to be determined once organization is chosen.
	Planned Activities	CHDO Operating services
33	Project Name	HOME - CHDO Set Aside - 15% Minimum PLUS- Eastside CDC
	Target Area	Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$1,000,000
	Description	CHDO Set Aside funds of 15% of HOME Award without Program Income (\$2,363,039) totaling \$354,456 for use by Eastside Community Housing Development Organization for housing development loans. This fund is used to support activities that increase and expand homeownership, stabilize and revitalize existing housing stock, and address the housing needs of persons who require supportive housing. The production of units will be carried out by the certified CHDO - Eastside Community Development Corporation for the addition of three units of homeowner housing. A total of \$1,000,000 will be set aside for this project in this Action Plan period.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Individuals living at 80% of AMI or below will benefit. In FFY23, efforts will support construction of units for homeownership in the historic community of Turner Station for low-income homebuyers.
	Location Description	Projects will be carried out in Turner Station.

	Planned Activities	CHDO Set Aside funds of 15% of HOME Award (\$2,363,039) totaling \$354,456 for use by Community Housing Development Organizations for housing development loans to ensure affordable housing units in the County. The County is providing more than the minimum set aside and providing the project with \$1,000,000. Funds will be used by the Eastside Community Development Corporation for housing development loans to construct three affordable housing units in the Turner Station neighborhood of Baltimore County.
34	Project Name	HOME Acquisition, Rehab and Preservation
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	:
	Description	FFY 2023 allocation of HOME funds reserved for homeowners to repair/renovate their homes is focused on the Senior Repair Program established under a separate HOME activity. The County currently has no general HOME funds reserved for this effort. However, the County is retaining this project in the event that another project falls through and more HOME funds become available for use. At that time, the County may opt to use some of those newly available funds toward this effort.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At present, no activities are expected because the funds are in the Sisterhood and Eastside projects. In the event those projects fall through, monies would be moved to this activity and the number of families benefitting will be entered.
	Location Description	Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204 is the administrative location, but individual homeowners will apply for assistance from across the County.
	Planned Activities	HOME funds may be used for extremely low, very low, and low-income homeowners to repair and renovate their homes, bringing them in compliance with Baltimore County codes. Homeowners countywide are eligible for the program. Repairs and renovations will be done in accordance with healthy home standards and guidelines.
	Project Name	HOME Administration - Balance

35	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: \$131,304
	Description	Funds will be used for the coordination, administration, and implementation of the HOME Investment Partnership Program.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity. Funds are used for staff costs and other administrative activities.
	Location Description	105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	This is an administrative activity. Funds are used for staff costs and other administrative activities.
36	Project Name	HOME - Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP)
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$350,000
	Description	During FFY 2023, the County will allocate HOME funds to support 35 first-time buyers with purchasing a home in Baltimore County with \$10,000 assistance per household.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At \$10,000 assistance per household, 35 households will benefit from this project.
	Location Description	Location is determined by homebuyers purchasing properties in Baltimore County. Properties are selected by individual residents.

	Planned Activities	Nonprofit organizations will support first-time buyers with purchasing a home in Baltimore County with \$10,000 per household. The program provides assistance to 35 households to purchase homes in Baltimore County.
37	Project Name	HOME - Senior Rehabilitation Program for Homeowners (25 Units)
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	HOME: \$500,000
	Description	The Senior Repair Program is designed to assist income-eligible senior homeowners with a grant to repair or replace major systems which have failed/at imminent danger of failure and pose a hazard to senior occupants' health or safety.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 senior homeowners will be able to remain in their homes after receiving rehabilitated home systems/conditions remedied.
	Location Description	Projects will be based on individual residential applications and could be provided anywhere within the County to an income eligible homeowner in need of repair.
	Planned Activities	The Senior Repair Program is designed to assist 22 income-eligible senior homeowners with a grant to repair or replace major systems which have failed/at imminent danger of failure and pose a hazard to senior occupants' health or safety.
38	Project Name	HOME - Sisterhood Agenda Permanent Supportive Housing Construction
	Target Area	Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: \$1,773,736

	Description	Construction of The Parks Project will provide 22 units of permanent supportive housing serving at-risk women and their children who are at 60% of AMI or below for families experiencing homelessness. \$743,583 in FFY23/CFY24 HOME entitlement funds will be used. An additional \$1,030,153.90 in OLD HOME funds will support this project.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	22 households will be served. The households will be at-risk women and their children at-risk of homelessness
	Location Description	Essex, Maryland
	Planned Activities	The project will be located in the Essex neighborhood of Baltimore County which is located in a Community Conservation area. This community will be a housing innovation for the County, as it will provide permanent supportive housing for at-risk women and their children exclusively. The Parks Project will be a long-term asset serving Baltimore County constituents across the housing continuum.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The County will group entitlement funds in four geographic target areas of Baltimore County during the Consolidated Plan period. Please note that due to issues with the design of the HUD database and download of this document, the fourth distribution area, **Countywide**, does not appear in the chart below. The vast majority of the County's funds are open to individuals across the entire County. The general exception to this is the built-environment projects around affordable housing which are targeted to Opportunity Areas associated with the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement. With Countywide not showing as an option below, the remaining geographic areas identified are - Opportunity Areas, Sustainable Communities, and Community Conservation Areas - and in multiple cases these areas can overlap. As a result, a funded project could be represented across all three listed areas and/or a project could physically be operated in one of the geographic areas listed below and still serve eligible citizens countywide. The majority of public service activities in Baltimore County are open to citizens countywide as long as the CDBG eligibility requirements are satisfied. This is the case even if the project is located in one of the County's identified geographic target areas. For the purposes of building affordable housing, however, the County is prioritizing family housing in Opportunity Areas. The Sustainable Community and Community Conservation Areas are locally designed and correspond to State or local urban planning/funding areas.

Opportunity Areas are predominantly in the southwest and the northwest/central/ and northeast sections of the County. Areas inside of the Urban Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) are predominantly “outer Beltway” communities that are a mix of older suburban villages and traditional, lower density suburban development as well as high density growth areas with a mix of housing types, amenities and services. Most of the County’s employment opportunities are here – healthcare, manufacturing, services, information technology, research and governmental agencies. These areas in the County’s Priority Funding Area, have public infrastructure, and are slated for growth consistent with the County’s Master Plan. **Sustainable Communities** – These communities are older suburban villages or towns anchored by downtown business districts and surrounded by a mix of housing types of varying densities and ages. **Community Conservation Areas** – generally consist of low to moderate density suburban residential neighborhoods that are often adjacent to higher density, more mixed-use areas served by public water and sewer facilities and often represented in the older communities ringing the Baltimore Beltway. Community Conservation Areas are within the URDL and considered part of the Priority Funding Area. **Countywide** services are primarily representative of the public service activities. Many of these are located in Community Conservation areas serving the County's older communities.

The distribution of funds below does not include the funds spent on administrative activities in support

of General Administration, Housing Rehabilitation, Housing Services, and HOME Administration.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Opportunity Areas	96
Sustainable Communities	0
Community Conservation Areas	4

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Of the County's entitlement award, only four projects (totaling \$1,371,916) are designated as serving in a particular Target Area above. The largest of these are two HOME activities – CHDO Operating, and Acquisition/Rehab. Together these projects encompass roughly \$1.3 million in expected spending during the Plan period. Two other smaller projects are operating in a Community Conservation Area and an Opportunity Area though in theory their activities fall in those areas more by service area footprint than specific project design to exclusively serve the Target Area population. The remaining activities identified throughout this Action Plan provide services that operate countywide.

The County wishes to support the movement of housing and other services for those most in need into the County's Opportunity Areas. These areas have been identified as having high economic opportunity, a strong homeowner occupied housing stock, strong median household income, low poverty rates and are not in areas of minority concentration. Generally, these areas are considered to have strong schools, low crime, and good transportation options to work. Although the geographic distribution chart above only captures the federal funds spent, Baltimore County will also continue to provide County General Funds in the amount of \$3 million per year for affordable housing construction. In addition, Baltimore County will be setting aside \$300,000 a year in County General Funds for housing modifications to make accessible rental units in Opportunity Areas for those participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

In addition to the aforementioned County funds, HUD funds will be used to assist low- and moderate-income individuals living in Opportunity Areas, Sustainable Communities and Community Conservation Areas. HUD defines low- and moderate-income areas as those where income concentrations of a block group fall within a jurisdiction's top 25 percent. In Baltimore County this means neighborhoods where the percentage of the County's citizens have incomes at or below 80 percent of the area median income. A high portion of these neighborhoods are also home to the County's minority population. Many of these neighborhoods fall within the Community Conservation Areas and the County feels it is important to support these neighborhoods with a variety of services. Lastly, it is important to remember that there are also services that will be provided countywide like services for victims of domestic violence, homeless, and immigrants and others with Limited English Proficiency. The County maintains its commitment to these populations by choosing to have the majority of its provided services

available to the entire county.

Discussion

Baltimore County's geographic priority areas reflect the housing and community development needs of its citizens. Housing (new construction, acquisition, and rehabilitation) will be concentrated largely in the Opportunity Areas while the County also maintains its commitment to providing needed public services like affordable child care, quality afterschool programming, job training and citizenship services.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The charts below reflect affordable housing units provided using federal CDBG and HOME funds only. The County also plans to use its own funds to support the creation of additional affordable rental housing in Baltimore County. Those are reflected in our narrative discussion of this document. The chart below pulls numbers only from those projects funded through federal funding. In the case where a project is funded with both federal and county or other funds, those units will be included in the chart below.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	22
Non-Homeless	178
Special-Needs	44
Total	244

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	5
The Production of New Units	151
Rehab of Existing Units	88
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	244

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The Annual Affordable Housing Completion Goals (Table 3B Section 215) is captured in the County's Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER). In prior Consolidated Plans, the County included its CDBG funds for 59 Permanent Supportive Housing under the Homeless households above. The County continues to provide funds to those 59 households. However, those funds are used for general program operations rather than specific rental unit costs. As a result, the County has removed those units from the 215 Chart. Additionally, the County continues to make a grant to Rebuilding Together for its rehabilitation of older homes in the County, however, the County is funding the administrative oversight only. As a result, the County has removed the specific unit association from this direct calculation since the funded activity is rehab administration only and not hard unit costs.

Expected units assisted in the coming Action Plan period would include: homeowners receiving rehabilitation through the Single Family Rehab program (16) and HAMP for homeowners(25),

rehabilitation of Alternative Living Units for citizens living with a disability (19), housing accessibility modifications through CDBG to renters (5), new family rental development in Rosedale (40), preservation of a housing unit for rental in East Towson (1), construction and rehab of homeownership units in Turner Station through HOME CHDO set aside funds(3), construction of senior housing units (84), new construction of permanent supportive housing units for families experiencing homelessness (22), rehabilitation of two (2) units and new construction of two (2) units for young adult mothers, senior rehabilitation of homeowner housing (25).

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Baltimore County does not own, nor operate any Public Housing developments.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

Not applicable.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

Not applicable.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

Not applicable.

Discussion

Not applicable.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

Baltimore County, Maryland, is located in the geographic center of Maryland, surrounding the City of Baltimore almost entirely, and is bordered by Howard, Harford, Carroll, and Anne Arundel Counties. The county, with a population of over 800,000, is the largest jurisdiction in the Baltimore-Towson Metro Area and is the second largest Continuum of Care (CoC) in the state of Maryland. The CoC serves 3,000-4,000 people annually across all homeless service programs. The County's Point in Time (PIT) counts average 10-12% of the State's total count annually. Baltimore County's homeless services are funded independently from other counties, yet data shows that those experiencing homelessness in Baltimore County frequently cross borders between the surrounding jurisdictions.

Baltimore County CoC is receiving HUD Technical Assistance (TA). Continuing through December 2021, this TA supports the updating of our CoC governance structure, standard operating procedures, build out of our Coordinated Entry system, and improvements to our data use and system of performance measurement. The County will continue to utilize its federal and state funding allocations to provide eviction prevention, shelter diversion, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing to those in need. The County is open to best practices learned from communities nationwide to identify local strategies that will prevent more households from becoming homeless. For those who do become homeless, these strategies will reduce the length of time that they experience homelessness. The County will use its HOME funds, CDBG, county General Funds and Payments in Lieu of Taxes to preserve and create affordable rental housing that will be affordable to families with an emphasis on expanding housing opportunities in non-impacted areas and in areas of high opportunity. This includes the \$7.4 million in HOME-ARPA funds allocated to the County in response to the COVID pandemic. The County is currently undertaking listening sessions for its use of these funds. Those listening sessions, combined with the recommendations of the County's Affordable Housing Workgroup, will inform the plan for use of the HOME-ARPA funds.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

Since the 1990s Prologue's Street Team, a nonprofit funded through the CoC, has served the most chronic and vulnerable homeless population throughout Baltimore County, providing both outreach and intensive case management. The Team is dedicated to person-centered work, supporting the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness in our jurisdiction. Prologue encounters 700-800 individual people annually. Outreach and case management staff work to build trust to encourage people to agree to accept services and housing. Prologue utilizes a vulnerability assessment to determine severity of service needs and confirm chronicity. The ultimate goal is to assist unsheltered

homeless individuals and families to obtain mainstream benefits and other service connections in order to sustain housing independently. Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development coordinates with the County Executive's Office, the county's property management unit, and Prologue to respond to homeless encampments throughout the County. Prologue staff is able to respond to calls regarding homeless unsheltered persons within 24-48 hours of referral.

As part of Prologue's services, they also have a drop-in center open two to three days a week, depending upon outreach staff availability. Approximately 140 persons visit the center each month to obtain food, take a hot shower, do laundry, and connect with outreach and case management staff. The center serves as a warming center and summer cooling location. Prologue plans to renovate and expand this drop-in center over the next year. Additionally, Prologue has a staff person who administers SOAR as appropriate in order to secure benefits. The County continues to support Prologue's homeless outreach efforts as well as additional providers doing similar homeless and harm reduction efforts in the coming year.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The County contracts with three non-profit organizations for the operation of four year-round emergency shelters, including a domestic violence shelter. Additionally, federal, state and county funding also support the operation of up to 64 seasonal (cold/freezing weather) shelter beds. The CoC funds a total of 556 shelter beds (312 family beds and 40 adult beds). The shelters provide a wide range of programs and services, including but not limited to sleeping accommodations, meals, laundry, shower and other essential services, case management, health and mental health services and referrals, parenting classes, life skills and other workshops, job skills training and employment assistance, child development and recreational activities, housing and budget counseling, tutoring, and more. The CoC is working closely with our recently expanded coordinated entry team to assess data about shelter referrals and placements to understand the need, utilization rate and reasons that impact 100% capacity following the COVID pandemic. The majority of the county shelter beds are in a congregate setting, with top and bottom bunks. The county is considering ways to reduce the number of top bunks to incentivize more people into accepting shelter.

Throughout calendar year 2022, the County's shelters served 1495 individuals, of whom 72% were adults, 28% children, 3% veterans, 17% met the definition of chronically homeless, and 3% were fleeing the domestic violence. As a result of a 14-month engagement with HUD TA, Baltimore County will have a fully expanded Coordinated Entry process that will result in a full integration, assessment, and prioritization of all emergency housing resources funded through the CoC continuum. The CoC will focus its efforts on increasing exits to permanent housing, reducing returns to homelessness and lengths of

stay in emergency shelter.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

Baltimore County and its CoC will continue to focus on increasing Rapid Rehousing beds and access to permanent supportive housing (PSH). This past year, the County prioritized 62 Emergency Housing Vouchers received for the chronically homeless, those fleeing domestic violence, large families and those with the longest tenure in our homeless services system. In the coming year, the County plans to work on a move on strategy from our existing PSH units to free highly supported units up for those with higher vulnerability and higher service needs. The County is also working with its Housing department to determine ways to create homelessness preferences and/or direct set asides for existing voucher programs.

The County's current HUD TA work to revamp the Coordinated Entry system and prioritization tool will ensure the County is prioritizing the most vulnerable and highest service needs for the most resource-rich housing interventions. The County Executive has set aside \$16 million for an affordable housing trust fund. The County is tracking the development of affordable units as well as the creation of PSH units within those developments.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

A key strategy for ending homelessness is preventing individuals from becoming homeless in the first place. Baltimore County DHCD has allocated over \$115 million in federal eviction prevention funding throughout the pandemic and continues to use COVID funds for Housing Stability services and rental assistance. These funds were a helpful compliment to the existing use of federal, state, and county funds awarded each year to community partners focused on providing eviction prevention, short-term rental assistance (RRH) and assistance with utility shut off. A number of County and nonprofit agencies provide financial assistance to prevent eviction as well as preventing the disconnection of utilities. For years, the County has used its own funds to support a shelter diversion program that allows for creative solutions to deter individuals and families from going into shelter. This program enables the County to

use shelter beds for those most in need while diversion case managers work to keep individuals/families in their current housing, unify them with family/friends when possible, move families quickly into new housing, or navigate other issues that appear to be obstacles to housing. Financial assistance is provided through a flexible fund to meet the specific and unique needs of individual families, including short-term rental assistance, one-time emergency assistance, transportation funding, security deposits, etc. The County is using federal ERA funds to support housing stability services for families to maintain housing. Existing federal funds are focused on maintaining the 270 permanent supportive housing units funded through the CoC and expanding rapid rehousing efforts countywide.

The County has several strategies to prevent individuals being discharged from a publicly funded institution (foster care, hospitals, mental health program, jail, etc.) from becoming homeless. The County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is responsible for implementing discharge planning for children in foster care. The County's goal is to make sure every child has a permanent supportive connection before they age out of care. As policy, if youth leave after they turn 18, they can return until they are 21 and receive aftercare assistance. Youth may also be placed on a waiting list for either the Family Unification Program or Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) for possible future housing. All publicly funded institutions follow the County's protocol of calling Coordinated Entry to refer individuals exiting institution for shelter services, housing assistance, shelter diversion, eviction prevention services, and rapid rehousing. Under recent initiative, the Chief of Homelessness works closely with a hospital stakeholder group to identify barriers with Coordinated Entry (CE) hotline calls for individuals being discharged from an ER or Hospital stay to emergency shelter or crisis beds. DHHS works with Corrections to address discharge planning for clients. Homeless prevention services are provided to link mainstream resources, workforce development, credit repair and eviction prevention assistance. DHHS's Behavioral Health unit provides in-house case management support to clients with mental illness to assist with the transition, including limited crisis response and residential rehabilitation housing beds through a variety of providers.

Discussion

Helping individuals and families avoid becoming homeless (continued):

The county is also placing continued attention on the rental housing needs of low-income families and persons with disabilities. The County is working to create and expand rental housing for low-income families and persons with disabilities in areas of low poverty and high opportunity. Ideally this housing is best when located close to good schools, employment, transportation, and services such as health care centers, libraries, and community centers. The County set a goal of establishing 1,000 new affordable housing units over a 12-year period. Ten percent of these units would be available to disabled households; 50% would be available to larger households and feature three bedrooms. The County agreed to direct 2,000 Housing Choice Vouchers to Very High, High and Moderate Areas of Opportunity over a ten-year period, 10 percent of which must be for disabled households. The County also established a mobility counseling program to assist voucher holders. The County also supported source-

of-income legislation for the state and enacted its own source-of income law.

The combination of these many-tiered efforts will help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless.

Discussion:

The County has a strong commitment to meeting the needs of the County's homeless citizens and in efforts to divert people from becoming homeless. As the lead agency for homeless service planning, the Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development will continue to work with its governmental, faith based, consumer and private citizen partners to address the multivariate needs of this population.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

The County outlined its strategy to remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing in its Consolidated Plan. The following is a description of the actions that will be taken in CFY 23 to implement the strategy.

Included in the County's Master Plan 2020 a clear statement articulating the County's commitment to expanding fair housing choice for members of protected classes through the creation of affordable rental opportunities in a variety of neighborhoods and include the applicable elements of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA). The Master Plan must comply with the established review and approval procedures of the Planning Board and County Council.

The County Executive submitted his proposal for the operating and capital budgets for CFY 24 to the County Council. In compliance with the VCA, the County included \$3 million in the Economic Development Financing Fund to support the creation of affordable rental "hard units" in Areas of Opportunity as well as \$300,000 for accessibility modifications needed by Housing Choice Voucher holders. In accordance with the VCA, the County will continue to pursue its goal of accessibility modifications for those voucher holders in need of such modifications. Based on the VCA agreement, the County may provide the use of uncommitted funds to other low-income rental families who need assistance to pay for structural housing modifications to meet the accessibility needs of a family member with a disability, but the County continues to focus these funds on voucher families.

The County will continue to use HOME, and CDBG to increase access to homeownership and maintain and increase housing for low/moderate income households, and will continue to fund fair housing activities including education and outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing counseling, and investigation of complaints and referrals. The contract for fair housing services through a competitive bidding process was approved by the County Council on June 6 and commenced on July 1, 2022. Services will include fair housing outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing, investigation of complaints and referrals, and tenant landlord counseling using a combination of General Funds, CDBG, and ARP-SLFR funds. This is in direct response to the great impact COVID has had on the eviction threat. These services are currently being provided by Economic Action Maryland (formerly Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition) and will continue during the Action Plan period.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

To address impediments posed by source of income restrictions, Baltimore County Council passed the "HOME Act" on November 4, 2019 which prohibits housing discrimination based on lawful sources of

income. As a result it is now illegal for a property owner to refuse to rent to a potential tenant based on the person's source of income, in the same manner that renters cannot be discriminated against based on their race, sex, religion, and other legally protected groups. Source of income can refer to income from a job, public assistance programs, benefits, inheritance, a pension, an annuity, the sale of a property and other similar financial considerations including participation in the Housing Choice Voucher program. The County will continue to support efforts to educate landlords and lessen opportunities for income discrimination in housing.

The County will continue to use ARP-SLRF, HOME and CDBG to increase access to homeownership and maintain and increase housing for low/moderate income households, and will continue to fund fair housing activities including testing, education and outreach, counseling, investigation of complaints and referrals. The contract for fair housing services to Economic Action Maryland, awarded through a competitive bidding process, was approved by the County Council on June 6, 2022. These services are currently being provided by Economic Action Maryland and this same organization will continue to provide these services in the new fiscal year and beyond.

Baltimore County established an Affordable Housing Work Group in 2021 with membership from a variety of stakeholder groups, including government, the private sector, advocacy organizations, and County citizens. The work group had three subcommittees - education, zoning, legal/best practices - and published its final report in July 2022, providing recommended next steps in each of the subcommittee areas.

Discussion:

Efforts to make changes that affect various public policies such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations and other policies that contribute to the creation of barriers to access affordable housing will involve consistent, outcome directed education for citizens as well as the political realm. Implementation of the Affordable Housing Work Group recommendations is the next step in this effort. The initial package of local housing legislation recommended by the Work Group was passed by the County Council in March 2023 and will directly and indirectly have a positive impact on the development of affordable hard units.

Council Bill 4-23 created the Housing Opportunity Funds, providing the County with a centralized investment funds where County, State, Federal and philanthropic funds can be utilized to help the County meets its housing goals. The County will use this fund to invest in quality development, redevelopment and adaptive reuse projects that include a component of affordability, with an emphasis placed on projects that help the County meet its VCA goals.

Council Bill 5-23 created a definition of a "Vacant Structure" in the County Code, gave the County the power to designate a property as vacant, and established an inventory where these designated properties will be publicly listed. The strategy is in the initial implementation stage, working to populate the inventory with properties known to be vacant. This will allow developers to have a public,

centralized place where they can view properties with the potential for revitalization, moving these properties from vacant to occupied. The County is prepared to use its existing authority to waive certain taxes and liens for developers who are willing to guarantee affordability on a redeveloped property. The County intends to use this new process to assist in the development of hard units in areas of opportunity and affordable homeownership.

Council Bill 6-23 will allow developers the option to build townhomes 16 feet wide – narrower than the typically allowed 20 feet – if at least 10% of the units in the development include a component of affordability at 120% AMI or lower. While this bill was targeted at creating affordable homeownership, the County is hopeful that the new allowance created by this bill will encourage developers to incorporate a range of affordable options to meet the set-aside 10%, including units preserved for rent for those at 60% AMI or lower. This also marks the first time that local County housing legislation has included a set-aside for affordability; a concept that will be expanded on in subsequent legislative packages.

Council Bill 7-23 expands the allowed usage of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in the County, expanding the immediate family allowance to an allowance for any family member of the property owner to reside in the ADU. The prohibition on compensation was also removed. The expanded allowance will help create more opportunities for the usage of ADUs, taking pressure off of an existing housing market where elderly residents often compete with working families for limited rental units.

The County is conducting research and examining its options to be included in its next housing legislative package. These include the zoning and development changes recommended by the AHWG, as well as tools that have been used successfully in other Maryland jurisdictions. Current research topics include (but are not limited to) inclusionary zoning policies, adjustments to development allowed in certain business and manufacturing zones, changes to the County's existing overlays, and right of first refusal programs.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The federal funding which supports the activities identified in this document's federally-funded project list represents just a portion of the efforts necessary to meet the needs of Baltimore County's low to moderate income citizens. In addition to the County's entitlements fund of CDBG, HOME, and ESG, the County adds federal Continuum of Care funds, State homeless funds, and a considerable portion of County funds to support activities like those in the project list.

Additionally, in response to COVID-19 pandemic, the County has specific funding dedicated to pandemic response. This includes CDBG-CV, ESG-CV, US Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program funding and the expectation of upcoming HOME-ARP funding. Combined these funds have provided approximately \$80 million to Baltimore County in response to the pandemic, with an additional \$16 million in the pipeline from SLFR-funded projects. The vast majority of these funds were dedicated exclusively to rental assistance and eviction prevention. Plans for some of the above-mentioned funds were included in the FFY 2019 and FFY20 Action Plans, as appropriate. The County is also expecting to invest a combined \$1.44 million in eviction prevention legal services through a mix of CARES-CRF and SLRF between October 2020 and December 31, 2024 and over \$2 million on housing stability services through a combination of ERA and CARES-SLRF in the coming years.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Federal funds alone are not enough to meet the need of Baltimore County's citizens. The County leverages these federal funds with State and County monies while encouraging our nonprofit partners to seek private funders as we all work together to meet the needs of our low- and moderate-income citizens. To this end, the County uses State Homeless Solutions Program (HSP) funds to assist with eviction prevention, rapid rehousing for adults and unaccompanied homeless youth (UHY), emergency shelters and homeless outreach efforts. The County provides substantial funding to the Maryland Food Bank as well as the County's community action agency and a host of other nonprofit agencies working with low- and moderate-income County citizens.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

As mentioned several times throughout this document, the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement sets out a road map for construction of affordable rental housing for larger families, citizens living with a disability, and those least likely to seek out affordable housing in Opportunity Areas. As part of this effort, the County will: increase the total number of affordable rental units including an expansion of those that are wheelchair accessible with accessible public and common spaces, make housing modifications/accessibility repairs to assist special needs populations and the elderly remain in their homes, support permanent supported housing for individuals, families and the chronically homeless, remediate environmental toxins like lead and mold from homes, support Fair Housing efforts, assist

homebuyers through pre purchase and post purchase counseling and mortgage write down, and increase the overall supply of affordable rental housing through new construction, substantial rehabilitation or acquisition. One hundred percent of the County's entitlement funds in this area are expected to serve the County's low and moderate income citizens. As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, the County has also amended its FFY2019/FFY2020 Action Plans in response to federal stimulus funds targeted to helping individuals and families maintain housing or gain quick entry into housing as part of the pandemic response.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

In August 2013, Baltimore County began educating county citizens about lead-based paint (LBP) risks associated with housing units built prior to 1978 and began to remediate homes containing lead. The County's goal is to increase the access and availability of lead safe and lead-free housing for low- and moderate-income County households. In accordance with the Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992; before any construction activities are undertaken the County requires that a certified Maryland Risk Assessor test each applicable residence for the existence of LBP and to prepare a risk assessment report which dictates the required methods for addressing the LBP hazard. Per the State of Maryland's Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing law, owners of rental properties are required to register their units with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), distribute specific educational materials to prospective tenants and to meet specific LBP hazard reduction standards. In addition, all contractors performing lead paint abatement activities must be trained by a MDE accredited/licensed training provider and must receive accreditation to perform lead paint activities.

In January 2021, the County received word that it was awarded new funding of \$2 million to remediate homes with lead in the County. New staff are hired and over \$1 million in funds have been encumbered. Over \$900,000 is available during the Action Plan period to remediate homes with lead.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

As part of the public comment process for this Action Plan, the needs of the poverty-level families were discussed and the need for additional funding supported. Beyond the projects identified in this Action Plan, the need for continued County funding of a variety of non-profit efforts to assist children and their families living in poverty is also recognized. Other efforts during this Action Plan period include Churches for Streets of Hope (homeless), the Community Assistance Network (eviction prevention, food bank, financial literacy), Episcopal Housing's St. Francis Community Center program (eviction prevention), the Family Crisis Center (domestic violence), St Vincent de Paul - INNterim House (transitional shelter), Maryland Food Bank, Prologue (homeless outreach), Deltas (afterschool), and Pro Bono (mental health counseling).

In addition to the programs above, the County's Department of Social Services continues to address poverty concerns by providing cash assistance, housing and energy assistance and food assistance to low

income, needy County residents. The Housing Choice Voucher Program provides limited vouchers to those that have been on the county voucher wait list. The County is currently housing those that joined the wait list in 2008 and 2009. The County's Department of Economic and Workforce Development (DEWD) in partnership with the CoC was awarded a state innovation grant in the amount of \$200,000 aimed at expanding and improving the supported employment program focused on those receiving short-term rental assistance referred to as rapid rehousing, with employment and training referrals and support, to help extremely low-income families move out of poverty and sustain housing and employment. Public schools, libraries and community colleges also continue support services to prevent individuals and families from falling into poverty as well as efforts to assist those living in poverty. DEWD provides a holistic customer service model for delivering workforce services to unemployed and underemployed adults through three career centers and mobile career centers to provide workforce services in the heart of communities. As an outgrowth of COVID, the County established virtual customer services to engage with customers early in the process, providing a more robust and defined system of partners to offer complementary services, while focusing career pathways that support self-sufficiency and living wages. Staff serve targeted populations more effectively and efficiently by providing wrap around case management and assisting job seekers in alleviating barriers, connecting to career pathways, and employment that is at or above their previous wage to promote self-sufficiency on a career path with advancement and career success. Staff work directly with 150 individuals a year and fund occupational skills training that leads to industry recognized credentials and employment/careers.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development administers housing and community development funds associated with entitlement funds of CDBG, ESG and HOME, the Continuum of Care funding, and the Housing Choice Voucher program. The Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development joins with a host of governmental and private nonprofit partners to promote and develop affordable housing, sustainable communities and strong neighborhoods throughout the County. The County's Continuum of Care will continue to operate through the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable to provide a coordination of services and programming in a joint effort of governmental service providers in social services, health, planning, emergency services as well as faith-based organizations, nonprofit services, consumers and private citizens. Additionally, the Voluntary Compliance Agreement guides the County's Department of Housing and Community Development as it works with developers and landlords to increase the number of affordable housing units during the remaining Consolidated Plan period. The County's latest local housing package of four bills created and codified a revolving Housing Opportunities Funds, addressed limitation related to addressing vacant structures, removed barriers to ADUs and required affordability set-asides for developers wishing to build 16-foot townhomes; all measures to spur development of affordable rental and homeownership opportunities, preserve existing affordable housing stock,

revitalize and (re)build communities, and keep families together.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

Baltimore County plans to continue its citizen input process before making funding decisions to ensure the needs of low- and moderate-income persons, homeless persons and those with special needs have the opportunity to voice their needs and concerns. The Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable will continue to meet and plan for ways to address the needs of the County's homeless citizens and preventing others from becoming homeless. The County's Commission on Disabilities will continue to meet and plan for ways to address the needs of the County's citizens with disabilities. The County plans to continue its regional involvement in fair housing efforts with Baltimore City as well as Anne Arundel, Harford, and Howard Counties.

As the County moves into recovery era programming, we will be operating initiatives that will take into account feedback from residents, encourage interagency collaboration and promote efficient service delivery.

Beginning in May 2023, non-profits that provide services to extremely low-, low- and moderate-income residents will be invited to participate in a monthly call led by the County. These calls will serve as a place where providers can share how their programs are serving the community post-COVID funding as well as discuss emerging needs and how the County can support these needs. These monthly calls will be complimented by community listening sessions due to begin late July that will be open to providers, but more geared towards the larger community. The County will utilize data from its participation in the National Low Income Housing Coalition/University of Pennsylvania Tenant Impact Study; sharing the results as well as a summary of ERA rental assistance expenditures. While the focal point of the discussion in the listening sessions will be on the survey and summary, it will also give the County an opportunity to hear from communities at large about needs they are experiencing. This information will further inform the work of the County's non-profit providers and help shape County priorities.

In addition to the two activities discussed above, the County is launching two Housing Stability related initiatives. The first is ERA 2 funded Housing Stability services throughout the County and the second program is the County's new Housing and Economic Mobility Initiative (HEMI); a collaborative effort between DHCD, Department of Economic and Workforce Development and Community College of Baltimore County. Our ERA 2 Housing Stability Programs will provide mid to intensive levels of case management, tenant and landlord mediation as well as re-housing services for individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness. HEMI will be a mobile initiative that will rotate around the County in areas of the County that experienced high levels of instability during the pandemic. This initiative will bring employment, educational and training opportunities to County residents as well as allow residents to be screened for supportive programs such as SNAP and provide assistance applying for child care

vouchers. In addition to the collaboration of DHCD, DEWD and CCBC this initiative will also be working with landlords to host the events at larger properties, making it as convenient as possible for residents to access services.

Discussion:

The County will continue its efforts to meet the needs of the County's low- and moderate-income citizens through a variety of actions to develop programs, services and processes that support the ultimate goals of decent housing in a suitable living environment for our citizens.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

This section details specific program requirements for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	97.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is

as follows:

The County is not using other forms of investment beyond those identified in Section 92.205.

Information on the County's HOME-funded programs is summarized below. Further explanation, as well as how to obtain applications, can be found on the County's website at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/planning/housingopportunities/index.html.

Settlement Expense Loan Program - This program is an effort to encourage first time homebuyers to consider home ownership in existing residential communities in Baltimore County. The program is administered by nonprofit groups who offer homebuyer workshops and home ownership counseling to potential homeowners in search of settlement expense loans up to \$10,000. Households whose income is at or below 80% of area median as adjusted for household size are eligible for these loans on a first come –first serve basis. Information can be obtained on Baltimore County website, through contracted non-profit organizations, or by calling 410-887-3124 to request information to be mailed and/or emailed.

Homeowner Rehab - Assistance is in conjunction with Baltimore County's Single Family Rehabilitation Program, a program earmarked for homeowners that are at least 80% or below of area median income. If homeowner income is below 50% (and/or below 30%) of area median income, and extensive work is required, HOME funds will be used to assist these households - not exceeding maximum subsidy limits. In these cases, HOME is used to leverage other funding, or if units are deemed to have extensive safety issues, during underwriting or initial site visit to the unit of the homeowner by the Rehabilitation Specialist. Initial inquiry is made by the homeowner to the phone number above. An initial application is mailed to the homeowner to complete and return to our office. At time of underwriting and the review of documentation submitted, the use of HOME funds may be deemed appropriate when the unit is severely in need of restoration, income limits match better than those for state, or CDBG).

Development Projects – For developers interested in project development in Baltimore County, a courtesy meeting/ pre- committee meeting is scheduled. Developers are provided a copy of the Developer's Guide for review and are encouraged to apply for financial assistance. Should potential developers have questions or need clarity beyond the guidance provided in the Guide, they are encouraged to email questions directly to the Director of Planning and/or the Housing Finance Chief. The Guide is available on the website mentioned above or can be sent via US mail or email. Included in the developers' guide is a copy of the financial application which can be requested at any time as long as funds are available.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used

for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

Baltimore County follows the recapture guidelines as specified in the HOME regulations found at 24 CFR 92.254. For assistance provided to homebuyers through down payment assistance, if the Property ceases to be occupied by the homebuyer as the homebuyer's principal residence, or is sold, or otherwise transferred prior to the end of the Period of Affordability or (an "Event of Conveyance"), the Loan, or a portion thereof, shall be immediately due and payable out of the Net Proceeds. The amount of the Loan to be repaid to the Beneficiary shall be reduced proportionately, based on the time the property has been owned and occupied by the Buyer measured against the Period of Affordability, according to the schedule established.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

All housing assisted with HOME program funds in Baltimore County must meet the definition of "modest housing," as defined by HUD. As established by HUD, the purchase price of HOME assisted housing may not exceed 95% of the median purchase price within the statistical area.

Baltimore County Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP) ensures affordability of units acquired through its mortgage and/or regulatory agreement recorded in Maryland State Land Records. Homeowner assisted units through the Single Family Rehab Program will have their affordability captured in Maryland Land Records in the Deed of Trust and Loan Agreement. For development projects assisted with HOME funds, the recordation of the affordability is included in the recorded loan instruments as Declaration of Covenants, Deed of Trust and Loan Agreements.

In addition, all transactions have a Promissory Note included in the file that is not required to be officially recorded as above, but is maintained in each HOME assisted file for the purposes of early payoff or to determine recapture amount to be returned to Baltimore County if applicable. In the case of recapture, the amount subject to recapture is that of the direct subsidy to the homeowner. Depending upon the amount of funds disbursed, the period of affordability will run in accordance with HOME requirements stated in 24 CFR 92.254 for a period of five to 20 years. Exceptions can be granted based on the amount of assistance. The unit recapture can be extended to 20 years or the life of the borrower's ownership of the unit. If the unit is sold by the borrower, or its estate, all funds assisting the unit will be recaptured (in this instance Baltimore County is in first lien position).

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

Baltimore County does not plan to refinance any existing debt with HOME funds. Any HOME

Program funds recaptured will be used to support and assist other eligible HOME Program activities.

Continued Answer from earlier question - example of Baltimore County Language:

For assistance provided to homebuyers through new construction or rehabilitation, if the Property ceases to be occupied by the homebuyer as the homebuyer's principal residence, or is sold, or otherwise transferred prior to the end of the Period of Affordability or (an "Event of Conveyance"),

(A) Each Eligible Homebuyer purchasing the Unit, shall receive a loan from the Borrower (hereinafter referred to as "Owner's Loan") from the proceeds of the Loan which shall be evidenced by a promissory note together with a regulatory agreement that shall be recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, and shall run with the land and be binding on successors and assigns of the Eligible Homebuyer. The Regulatory Agreement shall restrict transfer of the Unit or the disposition of net proceeds of sale in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

(B) Owner's Loan Terms - The Owner's Loan shall be repaid according to the following schedule:

(a) If the Eligible Homebuyer refinances the first mortgage, and such refinancing involves an equity withdrawal, the Eligible Homeowner will be required to repay the Owner's Loan to the County to the extent of the withdrawal. To the extent that repayment is not required as a result of refinancing, the resale restrictions imposed upon the Unit will remain in force according to the terms of the Act.

(b) Where an Event of Conveyance (including sale, lease or other transfer) transpires during the Period of Affordability, the County shall be repaid all or a portion of the Owner's Loan out of the Net Proceeds (defined below) of the sale. The amount of the Owner's Loan to be repaid to the County shall be reduced proportionately, based on the time the Eligible Homebuyer has owned and occupied the Unit measured against the Period of Affordability.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(l)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

Baltimore County will allocate the \$343,000 of Federal Fiscal Year 2023/County Fiscal Year 2024 ESG funds to four organizations: two nonprofits that will provide rapid rehousing – St Vincent de Paul of Baltimore and Cornerstone Franciscan Ministries; Prologue for homeless outreach; and Churches for Streets of Hope to provide a cold weather shelter for seven months of the year. The balance of the

HUD ESG award will be used for County administrative oversight of the ESG funds. The County is currently rewriting its standards for its CoC programs, including ESG.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, Baltimore County was also awarded ESG-CV funds to prepare, prevent and respond to the National Emergency declared in March of 2020. The funds were originally expected to expire in 2022, but have been extended to 2023. The County will continue to use those funds to assist residents in need of rapid rehousing, homeless prevention, outreach services, and emergency shelter, as needed, until the funds expire at the end of September 2023.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

Baltimore County Coc has received HUD Technical Assistance since September 2021 and this assistance will continue through the end of calendar year 2022. This support has been invaluable to the County's work to revamp its Coordinated Entry (CE) system. With the help of the HUD TA partner, the County will have a fully integrated CE system and prioritization tool that will support the County's efforts to prioritize the most vulnerable with the highest service needs for the most resource-rich housing interventions. The County has funded an expanded CE response team to ensure immediate response to calls and referrals beyond emergency shelters. Before summer 2023, all emergency housing resources (outreach, shelter diversion, eviction prevention, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing) will be integrated into the CE system.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

In partnership with the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable, Baltimore County continues to use its existing processes for making sub-awards. All interested parties must apply for funding by developing a scope of work, program budget, and completing the Baltimore County Application for Financial Assistance. Applications are reviewed by a review committee comprised of members who are not associated with any of the applicant organizations. Review committees consist of county staff and private citizens. Review committees make a first round of recommended awards and approved award recommendations are sent to the Baltimore County Grants Review Committee. Recommended project then go to the Baltimore County Council and County Administrative Officer for final approval.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

In collaboration with the Roundtable Committee and the Baltimore County Communities for the Homeless, a 15-member consumer advisory board provides guidance to our program delivery and

design. It is comprised of formerly homeless and/or currently homeless individuals and provides feedback on the progress of the county's 10-year plan to end homelessness as well as plans to utilize new funding targeted to citizens experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The following performance standards are proposed for Baltimore County's ESG funded programs:

- **Provision of Services** – 75% of enrolled clients will receive case management services, as it is a requirement for receiving rental assistance
- **Determination of Risk** – 100% of applicants are assessed and determined to be most at-risk of homelessness and remaining homeless using a pre-determined assessment tool.
- **Length of Stay** – 65% of enrolled clients will remain housed for 1 year.
- **Employment** – 45% of employed clients will maintain employment.
- **Access to Mainstream Resources** – 65% of enrolled clients will gain access to mainstream resources.
- **Homeless Reduction** – The number of sheltered and street homelessness will be reduced by 12%.

Reduction of Homeless Length of Stay – The length of time homeless for 100 individuals will be reduced by 90 days.

The ESG standards for our Continuum of Care are attached. The County received public comment on these standards, but will review and adapt as appropriate with the CoC over time.

Attachments

Citizen Participation Comments

Public Hearing on Needs for FFY 2023/CFY2024 Summary of Public Comments Thursday, December 15, 2022, Virtual Hearing Baltimore County, MD

In anticipation of its upcoming HUD Entitlement awards for the CDBG, HOME and ESG funded projects, Baltimore County held a public hearing to solicit comments on County needs before its annual RFP meeting for the FFY2023/CFY 2024 grants for public services, homeless services and capital grants. This public hearing had 88 attendees and 26 provided public comments. The comments are summarized below and attendees are listed by organization in our Consultation section. Multiple attendees represented the organizations listed in that section. Where attendees listed only their organization name, County staff attempted to complete the contact information through Google searches. In a couple of instances, attendees did not respond to the County's survey attempts and staff were unable to find complete information via Google search. In those cases, the County listed only the information it had.

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m and the following individuals offered comments at the December public hearing. Participants were afforded the opportunity to sign up for a speaking slot via the chat box and speakers were called in the order their names appeared in the chat.

The comments are summarized below.

Dr. Danita Tolson with the NAACP encouraged the County to look for creative ways to bring more voices to the table to ensure additional community members and stakeholders are in attendance.

Susanna DeRocco discussed the importance of Breastfeeding Support Groups in community health advocacy. She also addressed the challenge of many in the Essex/Rosedale area with previously affordable housing that was being renovated and then raising rents that mean families can no longer afford the housing. Ms. DeRocco also said the loss of community programming in neighborhoods that was so essential to successful housing is no longer there as a support.

Kristofer Lindh-Payne with Episcopal Housing Corporation/St Francis Community Center thanked the County for its work and partnership in housing stability efforts and discussed the root causes of housing instability and those experiencing emergency crises related to housing and addiction. He encouraged the County to support financial literacy work and case management/financial social work to assist households maintain and sustain housing long-term. He stated the County needed more affordable housing construction and said the archdiocese was looking at vacant church buildings with an eye to creative conversations with Baltimore County on using some properties for increasing housing.

Taylor Simpson with Liberty's Promise spoke on behalf of the needs of immigrant youth. She explained the importance of having liaisons to help families find resources and integrate into community.

Linda Dorsey Walker spoke as a member of the Northwest Baltimore County Gateway Committee and the LyonsWoods Homeowners Association. She addressed the needs of seniors and thought some income limits needed to be adjusted to insure affordable resources for seniors centered around housing. She expressed concern about homeless near Turner's Station Fleming Community Center and wanted resources for senior centers in disadvantaged areas.

Jennifer Stine with CASA of Baltimore County addressed the needs of children and youth in foster care and said the County needed to focus on this population with an intersection of resources including therapy, housing, education etc. She also identified the needs of youth transitioning to adulthood.

Lisa Knauff with Richcroft discussed the needs among people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Covid decreased the availability of day services and an increase in safe and affordable housing for people with disabilities is needed.

Anne Wallerstedt with the MD Food Bank mentioned the historic levels of need for food. Working with Baltimore County, the Food Bank was focused on Hunger Hot Spots and looking to improve food distribution in specific areas of the County in greatest need.

Bill Fitzgerald with Meals on Wheels saw an increase in service demand due to the closures of many senior centers. Prior numbers showed 1800 meals and that rose to 2300 meals daily across their service area. In FY22, they provided 180,000 meals to 940 clients in Baltimore County. Along with meals, they performed wellness checks and sought to reduce the social isolation experienced by seniors. As seniors age and numbers grow, the County will need to plan for more of these types of services.

DeVonne Parks with the Stony Brook Community Association talked about the needs of the elderly in the neighborhood who can't take care of their houses and believed there was a need for programs to assist the elderly with housing updates, maintenance and renovations

Sendy Rommel of Prologue, Inc. discussed their organization's service to the growing homeless population where they provide resources and support services to get people into housing with services to maintain their housing stability. She also discussed the physical plants needs of their nonprofit's main building, renovation updates and maintenance. She discussed the needs of unaccompanied homeless youth grant with the County and requested the County streamline their grant processing to pay nonprofits sooner.

Amie Post with Family Crisis Center requested resource services for victims of domestic violence – including rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, shelter diversion. FCC operates the County's Coordinated Entry hotline for domestic violence and wants to see more services available in the continuum. She also expressed concern about the need for a better payment structure to get funds to nonprofits.

Marcus Boston with Easter Seals, supported the need for adult day services and the need for more programs to transition to other programs. Staff costs are creating hiring challenges and they are looking more toward technology to assist with some staffing issues.

Christopher Herr of Heroes Helping Heroes urged the County to invest resources into developing the County's youth. This includes tools for their personal development, self-regulation, self-management, improve education and relationships with families and youth. He also encouraged work-based experiences for older youth in careers with mentors so that empowered youth can become empowered adults.

Natalie Akinwusi with Women of Valor encouraged the County to serve women in the community through developing sustainable solutions like housing rehab centers. Working wages for many women don't meet the level of housing need and women can find themselves in shelter. Wants to support housing for parents and children that is linked to workforce development and wrap around services.

Aimee Bollinger-Smith with Baltimore County Department of Social Services discussed the County's growing Coordinated Entry effort as well as the rapid rehousing and eviction prevention efforts

underway by DSS. Crystal Parker, also with DSS, supported the concept of proactively educating the public about a one-stop shop to meeting the needs of mental health, food, employment, housing, supportive needs in a hub approach.

Danyell Smith of Black Women for Positive Change was interested in services for seniors to link them with resources, assist with lack of computer access, and the ability to reach out to different areas of the County.

Barbara Nock of Churches for Streets of Hope discussed the needs of the homeless and explained their work as a nonprofit volunteer organization that is able to reach out to individuals experiencing various challenges and act as liaisons to other public services.

Megan Goffney with Community Assistance Network sees continued trends in the need for security deposit help, affordable and subsidized housing as well as rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing programs. Case management is needed as well as outreach to communities to connect resources with communities. An additional area of need is afterschool programming and summer programs for youth.

Michele Brown with the nonprofit An Intentional Purpose saw an increased need for food support. Her organization does not qualify for assistance through the MD Food Bank, but there is a need for food assistance in the County and senior services.

Jacob Kosi-Huber with Pro-Bono Counseling sees a need for mental health therapy in languages other than English. Additionally, there is a need for increased grant funds to support more mental health services to increase overall counseling capacity.

Theresa from the ARC sees the need for increased food resources, supportive services, and youth advocacy to remove barriers to services.

Jean Henningsen with Turnaround discussed a significant need for domestic violence, sexual violence and trafficking needs. She is hopeful to see a growth in funding for their work and the need for rape crisis centers. She mentioned late grant agreements and payments were impacting their work and concerned with potential service disruptions.

Pete Parran with Eastside Community Development Corporation discussed the important work of nonprofit housing counseling. Said the County had been a big funder and supporter of their work and saw the need for continued help in funding affordable housing and eviction prevention work.

Marie Schell with Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County stated how conflict resolution is an important part of reducing stress for residents seeking housing services and facing eviction. She explained how easy it is to start a Failure to Pay Rent filing and that the Law needed to be adjusted and supportive services offered through nonprofits to assist those attempting to maintain their housing and avoid homelessness.

Baltimore County, Maryland
Citizen Participation Plan
April 2023

(DRAFT changes highlighted for 2023 Action Plan to remove Planning Dept references and update virtual public hearing references for the long term)

I. Introduction

Baltimore County is committed to making local government reachable and responsive to its residents. The Citizen Participation Plan outlines procedures Baltimore County will follow in order to support community involvement and in compliance with the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) requirements for the Consolidated Plan. Opportunities for involvement in governmental decision-making and community development issues existed beyond the scope of the federal requirements. This plan is only one component of Baltimore County's extensive and on-going efforts to provide meaningful opportunities for all county residents to fully participate in their government.

The Consolidated Plan is a document submitted to HUD which serves as the community development plan, and which guides submissions for funding under Community Planning and Development formula grant programs, including the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and the Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Program.

The Citizen Participation Plan presents the County's plan for providing for and encouraging all citizens to participate in the development, revision, substantial amendment, adoption, and implementation of:

1. The Citizen Participation Plan (CPP);
2. The Analysis of Fair Housing Impediments (AFHI);
3. The Consolidated Plan (CP);
4. The Annual Action Plan (AAP); and,
5. The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

The Department of Housing and Community Development is the lead agency responsible for creating the Consolidated Plan and the Citizen Participation Plan. Additional goals of the Department of Housing and Community Development are to:

- Implement programs and projects that strengthen communities
- Improve housing opportunities

Federal Requirements

Federal regulations require the publication of the following information:

- The amount of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds expected to be available;
- The range of activities that available funds may be used for;
- The estimated amount of available funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit low and moderate income persons;
- The proposed CDBG, HOME, and ESG activities likely to result in displacement of persons as a result of proposed activities, and the plans to minimize said displacement;
- The types and levels of assistance the grantee will make available (or will require others to make available) to persons displaced by CDBG, HOME, and ESG funded activities, even if no displacement is expected to occur.

Federal regulations require that information be provided and input be sought in certain ways:

- Two public hearings are required to obtain the views of citizens on housing and community development needs, non-housing community development needs, development of proposed activities, and review of program performance. The public is given a minimum of two weeks' notice of the hearing dates and one of the hearings must occur during the development of the plan with a minimum of 30 days to provide comments. Hearings may be held in-person, virtually, or in a hybrid forum.
- A Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and a Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report are required, and when drafts are made available will be advertised in the local newspaper. Copies of the publications will be made available for citizens in each Baltimore County public library and on the County's website. An opportunity to comment on the community development goals and strategies, use of funds, and County's performance in meeting community objectives will be provided for a minimum of 30 days for the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, with a minimum of 15 days provided for the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report. Publications are provided in alternative formats upon request. All written comments are considered and included in final reports. Any Analysis of Fair Housing Impediments undertaken by the County will follow the same protocol of citizen participation.

Methods of Participation

Input from county residents is sought in a variety of ways, such as attending meetings of civic associations and business groups in areas where federal CDBG, HOME or ESG funds are

proposed to be used and reaching out through non-profit partners and to private citizens. Below is a sample of some outreach efforts to provide for participation:

- Small group discussions, work groups and task forces are convened around topics such as affordable housing and code enforcement and to address the needs of specific groups, such as seniors, renters, persons with disabilities or the homeless.
- Community meetings are attended: staff members serve as guest speakers, meet with neighborhood and other special-interest groups, and serve on a variety of committees to explain programs and solicit comments on community development needs, goals, strategies, priorities, and the projected use of funds as described in the Consolidated Plan, as well as to discuss past performance and obtain feedback.
- Interest groups are consulted: staff members solicit input from agencies representing special interest groups, such as nonprofit service providers and others so that the opinions of low-income residents, residents of public and assisted affordable housing, persons with disabilities, those with limited English proficiency, the homeless and others with special needs are considered in determining needs, setting goals and priorities, and evaluating accomplishments.
- Opportunity for electronic input is provided: both HUD and the County have internet web pages which provide the public with an opportunity to view and comment on relevant information. Additionally, the County allows for virtual attendance at public hearings.
- In accordance with federal requirements, the public is made aware of any substantial changes to activities described in the Consolidated Plan, and is provided with reasonable and timely access to information relating to the Consolidated Plan and regarding the use of CDBG, ESG, or HOME assistance received.
- A sign language interpreter can be available upon request by contacting the Department of Housing and Community Development at least five business days prior to the hearing, if in person.
- Upon request, and pursuant to 91.115(a)(4), the County will meet the needs of non-English speaking residents at public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate. Requests for interpreters should be given at least ten (10) days in advance of the required hearing date.

Scope of Participation

All aspects of citizen participation shall be conducted in an open manner with freedom of access for all interested persons. Special emphasis has been placed on encouraging participation by persons of low and moderate incomes, residents of blighted neighborhoods. Citizens are encouraged to participate in all aspects of the CDBG, ESG, and HOME programs and will be provided meaningful access to program information. Technical assistance will be provided to those citizens requesting assistance in developing proposals for funding assistance under the programs covered by the Consolidated Plan.

Substantial Plan Amendments

Substantial changes to the Consolidated Plan and/or Action Plan may include, but are not limited to the following circumstances:

1. a change in excess of \$400,000;
2. a substantial change in allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds;
3. an activity not previously described in the Plan will be carried out; or,
4. a substantial change in the primary purpose, or scope of an activity, such as intended beneficiaries or organizational support.

To seek input prior to implementing any substantial change, a notice of the change will be published in the local newspaper and on the Baltimore County website at least thirty days before the implementation of the change. Written comments will be considered during the thirty-day public display and comment period. A summary of any comments received will be attached to the substantial amendment.

The amendment will be submitted to HUD within thirty days following the end of the public display and comment period.

Minor Plan Amendments

Changes to the Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan that do not meet the level of a substantial amendment are considered a minor amendment. Activities included under this category are entered into IDIS, tracked according to HUD requirements, and reported on as part of the year-end CAPER.

Emergency Amendments

Occasionally, as in the case of a natural disaster or public health crisis, like a hurricane or pandemic, it may become necessary for Baltimore County to request a substantial amendment to its Consolidated Plan or Action Plan. During these times, the County may need to alter its method and timeframe for gaining public participation. The County may request, and HUD may approve, a waiver or reduction in the amount of days required for public notice and/or public comment; the need for public hearings held virtually rather than in person or to not to have a hearing at all if warranted due to the nature of the emergency; and the need to only post the Plan on a government website instead of in libraries or a newspaper, if appropriate to the emergency. If approved by HUD, the County will follow HUD's direction with no need to follow normal notice to the public or public comment requirements. Emergency amendments will be posted on the County's website and any activities undertaken as a result of an emergency amendment will

comply with the purchasing/granting procedures required by HUD and the County in place during the course of the emergency. Activities included as part of any Emergency Amendment are still entered into IDIS, tracked according to HUD requirements, and reported on as part of the year-end CAPER.

Complaints

Unresolved complaints related to the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, amendments and performance reports should be submitted in writing to the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. Reasonable effort is made to provide responses within 15 working days after a complaint has been received. If a response is not completed within said time frame, the appropriate individual will be contacted and provided an explanation for the delay.

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance is provided by Baltimore County upon request to the following groups in order to increase meaningful citizen participation and to foster community collaboration:

- Representatives of low- and moderate-income persons, so they may participate in planning, implementing, and assessing the program.
- Representatives of low- and moderate-income persons and neighborhood, which request assistance in developing proposals and statements of views
- Organizations proposing to provide services to the homeless and other special needs populations

Citizen Participation Plan Contact Information

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